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Gas prices

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against price gouging. The order was to expire April 2 but was extended to June 27. During an abnormal market disruption, it is unlawful to charge an "unconscionably excessive price" for energy, including gasoline, electricity and home heating oil.

In the last two weeks of May, the price of gasoline in the U.S. shot up 3%, to \$4.62 a gallon, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. The cost of buying gas has been rising for months, pushed up initially by quickly rising demand after it fell during the pandemic, then continuing its relentless climb in February when Russia invaded Ukraine, roiling global markets.

Tong sought more authority to take action against price gouging. State lawmakers did not advance legislation this year that would have authorized the attorney general to take legal action against businesses accused of price-gouging during a disaster or emergency declaration.

"We want more robust price gouging authority, which they have not given us," he said.

Retail sellers have not been responsible for price spikes generally and did not gouge, Tong said. Instead, wholesalers, suppliers or both are raising prices, forcing retailers to follow to earn the same profit or break even, he said.

Connecticut cannot bring enforcement action against "culpable parties" because they are beyond the reach of state law that banned price gouging at the retail level in 1986, Tong said.

State Rep. Steve Stafstrom, a Bridgeport Democrat and House chairman of the Judi-



The office of Attorney General William Tong said it has received 227 complaints of price-gouging, accounting for about 20% of the state's 1,156 gas stations. CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

cary Committee, blamed minority Republicans for blocking the legislation.

"While this proposal would have strengthened our price gouging statute by enabling the office of the attorney general to act on behalf of consumers to bring enforcement actions against price gougers at higher levels of the supply chain, Republicans stood in firm opposition to this bill," he said in an emailed statement.

Due to time constraints during the short legislative session "and this opposition," lawmakers could not find a compromise to advance the measure out of the Judiciary

Committee, he said.

State Sen. John Kissel of Enfield, the ranking Senate Republican on the Judiciary Committee, said Democrats, with majorities in the legislature, "have plenty of votes in the Senate and House to pass whatever bills they care about."

Lawmakers disagreed about how price gouging is defined, whether it's at a wholesale or retail level, he said.

State Rep. Craig Fishbein of Wallingford, the ranking House Republican on the Judiciary Committee, said the legislation was unclear about what would trigger an

unreasonable price for gasoline. Like other commodities, gasoline fetches varying prices in short periods of time, challenging the attorney general's office to "police the unpacking of those numbers," he said.

Several business groups opposed the legislation.

Christian Herb, president of the Connecticut Energy Marketers Association, testified to the Judiciary Committee that the legislation is vague and "makes it impossible for a business to understand how they can price their products when they are accused of charging an 'unconscionably excessive' price."

The American Petroleum Institute told lawmakers that "price gouging is complex — is challenging to prohibit legislatively — and its enforcement is equally nuanced and challenging."

Michael Fox, executive director of the Gasoline and Automotive Service Dealers of America, said the last few years have been difficult for gasoline retailers. They were required to stay open during the pandemic when demand for gas plummeted as offices and most other businesses shut.

"We went to work when 50% to 60% of the business was not there," he said.

As the COVID-19 vaccine was rolled out, gasoline retailers were rebuffed when they asked to be early recipients of the shot as a defense against returning customers who were infected, Fox said.

"We were told, 'No, get in line,'" he said.

Now prices are soaring and gas retailers face accusations of gouging, Fox said.

"That's the life of a gas station owner in Connecticut and the U.S.," he said.

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.

D-Day

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"The first thing I remember are the poor lads who didn't come back ... It's a long time ago now, nearly 80 years ... And here we are still living," he said. "We're thinking about all these poor lads who didn't get off the beach that day, their last day, but they're always in our minds."

Welcomed to the sound of bagpipes at the Pegasus Memorial in the French town of Ranville, British veterans attended a ceremony commemorating a key operation in the first minutes of the Allied invasion of Normandy, when troops had to take control of a strategically crucial bridge.

Bill Gladden, 98, took part in the D-Day British airborne operation and was later shot while defending the bridge.

"I landed on D-Day and was injured on the 18th of June ... So I was three years at the hospital," he said.

Meanwhile, on the British side of the Channel, then-17-year-old Mary Scott was

working at the communications center in Portsmouth, listening to the coded messages coming from the front line and passing them on as part of the operations on Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword beaches.

"The war was in my ears," she recalled, describing the radio machine she operated via levers.

"When they (communication officers) had to respond to my messages and they lifted their lever, you heard all the sounds of the men on the beaches: bombs, machine guns, men shouting, screaming."

Scott, who will soon turn 96, said she got very "emotional" when arriving to Normandy on Saturday on a trip organized by the Taxi Charity for Military Veterans.

She was in tears when seeing the D-Day beaches.

"Suddenly I thought maybe some of those young men I spoke to ... that they had died," she said.

The symbol is even stronger as across the Channel, Queen Elizabeth II, who served in World War II as an army driver and

mechanic, is celebrating her 70 years on the throne.

"Women were involved," Scott stressed.

"I mean, I'm enormously proud to have been a minute part of Operation Overlord."

Scott's face turned to sadness when she mentioned the war in Ukraine.

"Why can't we learn from past experiences? Why can't we do that? What's wrong with us?" she asked. "War should teach us something, but it never penetrates for very long."

Many visitors this year came to see the monuments marking the key moments of the fight and show their gratitude to the soldiers. World War II history enthusiasts dressed in uniforms were seen in jeeps and other military vehicles on the small roads of Normandy.

Greg Jensen, 51, came with his 20-year-old daughter from Dallas. Over the weekend, they visited the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial, overlooking Omaha Beach.

"I took a moment to just hold the sand and you think, gosh, the blood that was

spilled to give me that moment and the freedom to hold that sand," he said. "That was emotional for me."

"I hope a lot of this younger generation is watching because we can't forget what happened 78 years ago," Jensen said, especially thinking of the fighting in Ukraine.

Andy Hamilton, 57, a retired police officer, came with his family, including his two 8-year-old grandsons, from Shropshire in England.

"We're now showing our respects of the sites here and to give the grandchildren a sense of what World War II was like ... and the amount of people that have given their lives to sacrifice for the freedom of everyone," he said.

On D-Day, Allied troops landed on the beaches code-named Omaha, Utah, Juno, Sword and Gold, carried by 7,000 boats. On that single day, 4,414 Allied soldiers lost their lives, 2,501 of them Americans. More than 5,000 were wounded.

On the German side, several thousand were killed or wounded.

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LOTTERY

Sunday, June 5

PLAY3 DAY

1 5 2 WB: 5

PLAY4 DAY

5 8 1 2 WB: 3

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

SATURDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

PLAY3 NIGHT

9 3 4 WB: 9

PLAY4 NIGHT

8 8 7 9 WB: 5

CASH 5

11 12 17 22 23

LUCKY FOR LIFE

3 6 12 34 45 LB: 9

POWERBALL

14 16 36 52 60 PB: 16 PP: 3

Tuesday's est. Lotto jackpot: \$1.1 million

Tuesday's est. Mega Millions jackpot: \$207 million

Monday's est. Powerball jackpot: \$198 million

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Guns

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forefront of the fight for what they call common sense gun regulations.

Then and now, voices across the nation cried out: This is the time. If not now, then never.

President Joe Biden addressed the nation Thursday night and called for Congress to reinstate a ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines or to raise the minimum age for buying them from 18 to 21; to strengthen background checks; to enact red flag laws and safe storage laws like Ethan's Law; to repeal immunities that protect gun manufacturers from liability; and to address the nation's mental health crisis.

Biden said that the day before Memorial Day, he stood outside of Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, where 21 white crosses bear the names of the victims of the shooting — 19 of them children. In both Uvalde and Buffalo, where 10 Black people were fatally shot in a racially motivated mass shooting at a supermarket, the president said families of victims had the same singular plea: "Do something."

"After Columbine, after Sandy Hook, after Charleston, after Orlando, after Parkland, nothing has been done," Biden said. "This time that can't be true. This time we must actually do something."

Sandy Hook didn't turn out to be the catalyst for federal gun legislation that many hoped it would be. And neither have the many, many, many mass shootings that have happened since.

But for many, this moment feels different.

David Hogg, a survivor of the 2018 school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, that left 17 dead and another 17 wounded, said on Twitter: "This time is different."

Hogg's post was paired with a conversation he had with a person who said they were calling senators to urge them to pass gun laws. That person, in their message to Hogg, echoed the same sentiment: "This time IS different."

Hogg is a founder and board



Kristin Song, of Guilford, sits beside a photo of her 15-year-old son, Ethan, who died in 2018 in a gun accident, as she attends an emergency meeting of the U.S. House Judiciary Committee on Thursday to advance a series of Democratic gun control measures, called the Protecting Our Kids Act, in response to mass shootings in Texas and New York. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

member of March For Our Lives, a student-led demonstration formed after the shooting in Parkland. The group is set to march on Washington on June 11, with many parents, family and friends of victims, survivors, advocates and lobbyists from Connecticut planning to make the trip to the U.S. Capitol to march.

Hogg said that the point of the march is to take an initial step in "building the infrastructure to substantially reduce gun deaths." But he doesn't expect it to be a quick or easy fight.

"Let me be as clear as possible — just because this time is different doesn't mean it's going to end tonight, this year, or even and then in the next five," he said on Twitter.

Barden, co-founder of Sandy Hook Promise, said that for one of the first times in the 10 years since his son was killed, this feels like a moment when real change could occur.

"I hate that it takes something like this. It breaks my heart that it's coming at such a cost," Barden said of the lives lost in Uvalde. "But hold on to this pain, if you're feeling it right now, so we don't have to wait for another horrible

tragedy."

U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, en route to a march and rally in Newtown on Friday night for National Gun Violence Awareness Day, said that although there is no hard deadline for passing the gun violence legislation he and U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy are hoping for, he thinks Americans will know "within a days or weeks" whether Republican senators are "sincere about stopping gun violence."

He said his hope is that the U.S. Senate is on the verge of a bipartisan step.

"I'm more hopeful than ever since Sandy Hook that we can take that step," he said recently in Hartford as he stood with Song, Barden and survivors of the Sandy Hook shooting.

On Friday he said he was still hopeful that the Senate will reach a compromise on a package of what he says are common sense gun laws that will achieve bipartisan support from 60 senators — the number needed to pass such laws.

The package they've been working on includes a red flag restriction on gun purchases, a provision for extended background checks and more support for mental

health care and school safety.

He's also still working to include Ethan's Law, which requires all firearms, loaded and unloaded, to be safely stored if in a home with anyone under 18.

Blumenthal said the compromise they're looking for on the federal level is modeled after Connecticut's laws. The state, he said, has been at the forefront of passing common sense gun measures and proving that they work.

Blumenthal said he's been encouraged by extensive conversations he's had with his Republican colleagues over the past week, but is approaching the issue with "clear eyes" and is not hopeful for a "magical" solution to the issue plaguing the nation.

"I'm making no promises except that we're going to continue working and talking and listening," he said.

But he is hopeful.

"I'm still very hopeful and determined to work toward 60 [votes], because that's the only way we can save lives," he said. "We need to pass something to save lives."

Blumenthal said that over the past week, he's been hearing the same message repeated over and over as he's talked with Connecticut residents: "We need to do something."

His guess is that his Republican colleagues across the map are hearing the same.

Murphy said they aren't trying to solve all gun violence overnight, but are working to "find some common ground on changes to our gun laws to make sure that dangerous people don't get their hands on dangerous weapons."

Murphy, whose speech about gun violence on the Senate floor just hours after the shooting in Uvalde went viral, said that he was heartbroken to hear his own young children having conversations in school about how to survive a shooting.

He said he plans to work "every single minute of every single day to try to get our Republican colleagues to say yes to a compromise."

"I hope they are moved by what they have witnessed the way that the rest of this country has been

moved," he said.

Shannon Watts, a mother of five who founded Moms Demand Action, has been advocating for public safety measures to protect Americans from gun violence for years. The organization — which now has a chapter in every state — began as a grassroots movement the day after the shooting at Sandy Hook, when Watts felt compelled to help mobilize other mothers who wanted a safer future for their kids.

"It's inspiring to see the groundswell of support for gun safety all across the country because this is more than a moment; it's a movement," Watts told The Courant. "We're encouraged to see real bipartisan negotiations going on in the Senate right now, but it isn't about our hope that something gets done. It's our expectation that lawmakers do the right thing, to act with integrity, uphold their duty and act to keep us safe. We don't need thoughts and prayers from lawmakers. We need action."

"We have a moment of supreme opportunity and obligation," Blumenthal said Friday. "It's a moment of moral imperative, and we need to seize it."

Barden said that he feels the weight of the moment, too.

Parents who have lost children to gun violence, like Barden and Sandy Hook Promise co-founder Nicole Hockley, said they are aware of the collective trauma the recent spike in mass shootings has caused. They've urged people to take care of themselves and their families, to do what feels right for their own mental well-being.

Barden also called on them to turn their anger into action.

"You're feeling rage. You're feeling hurt by what happened in Uvalde, Texas. Hold onto that. Let it push you forward. Don't allow yourself the luxury of soothing yourself," he said in the days immediately following the shooting. "Take that outrage and turn it into action. Don't let it die with the news cycle. Keep it in your heart. Keep those children's faces in your heart and think to yourself, 'What can I do? Can I do more? Who can I help?' Everyone needs to be involved. We owe it to our children."

Farmer

from Page 1

Two eggs, actually.

Those two chicks, Sunny and Moon, grew to adulthood and led Stewart and his wife, Kaysle Brooks, to build an 8-by-8-foot coop and stock it with more chickens.

What followed was a steady supply of eggs.

"We offered some to some people, then we started selling the eggs," Stewart said. "Friends of mine started coming to me to say they love the farm fresh eggs."

That's when Stewart decided to make daily videos that provide people a window into what his life is like.

"No tutorials, just about how I'm living in Hartford," he said.

Stewart and Brooks then expanded their operation into growing fresh vegetables in the backyard. Around that time, Stewart, a fit martial arts instructor, started feeling more and more fatigued. He also began experiencing piercing, unrelenting back pain. A visit to the chiropractor only made things worse.

Finally relenting to his wife's prodding to get checked out, Stewart learned he had multiple myeloma, a form of blood cancer. Though the diagnosis was shocking, he did not panic.

"I was like, 'OK, what do I do now?' I have it. I can't worry about it. I said, 'What do I do now?'

"I'm on this path. I'm not going to fight it. I had cut everything [in the backyard]. We still had this gardening stuff."

So Stewart, 43, continued to focus on his garden as he battled cancer, which currently is in remission. He's quick to point out he saw a terrific specialist and went through chemotherapy. But he also credits gardening with saving his life.

"It's magical; it's spiritual," he said. "You have a seed. You put the seed in the ground, and just by faith you know that with everything you did, it is going to produce and grow. If you do everything right, you don't have to worry about anything. Just let nature happen. That's beautiful."

"It's growing; you get so excited. It grows and expands. From one seed, you get a whole bunch of different fruits or vegetables. I did this with my own two hands."

His videos, which he posts on social media, including Facebook, went from providing a window into his life to cajoling others into doing what he does with whatever space they have.

"My platform now is me saying, 'You can do it, too,'" he said. "If you want to learn anything, learn how to grow a seed, even if it's just in a pot or whatever. You don't have to do a big operation. Don't compare



Travis Stewart checks his kale plants inside a greenhouse he built behind his home in the South End of Hartford. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL MCANDREWS/SPECIAL TO THE HARTFORD COURANT

yourself to me, because I'm different from you."

While farming's reputation is that it's notoriously labor-intensive, that's not the case with Stewart's setup.

"My backyard is designed for laziness," he said. "Not because I want to be lazy. ... But I can come back here and be done in 5 minutes. I don't have to do much with this."

In his never-ending quest to improve and expand on his operation, Stewart linked up with the Knox Urban Farming Program as well as local leaders such as Kamora Herrington to plant the seeds of knowledge in other residents that backyard farming is not only possible but achievable.

Knox, which also provides free seeds to Hartford residents for farming and gardening, is "a gold mine," Stewart said. He takes every chance he gets to promote organizations such as Knox, Hands of Hartford and the Hartford Food System through his frequent videos.

Patrick Doyle, executive director of Knox, said Stewart's work fits perfectly with a couple of Knox's missions.

"He does amazing work on his property with his farming," Doyle said. "A big chunk of our work is about urban farming and gardening and really helping people in the city that want to grow food either

for themselves or to sell as a farmer or small business person. We've got space and programming to help them to do that. ...

"He's just such a positive person and brings such good energy to what he's doing. That's great to have with our community of farmers."

Herrington doesn't mince words in talking about Stewart.

"He is an amazing human being," Herrington said. "Everybody needs to know about him and what he's doing. ... Along with creating an entire ecosystem that can be and will be self-sustaining, he's doing what makes sense. ... You look at the martial arts piece, you look at the farming piece, and he's figuring it out with what he's got. ...

"He's a lifelong learner. ... I want my son to be with him more ... learn how to be a man, learn how to be a human being who is in control of his environment."

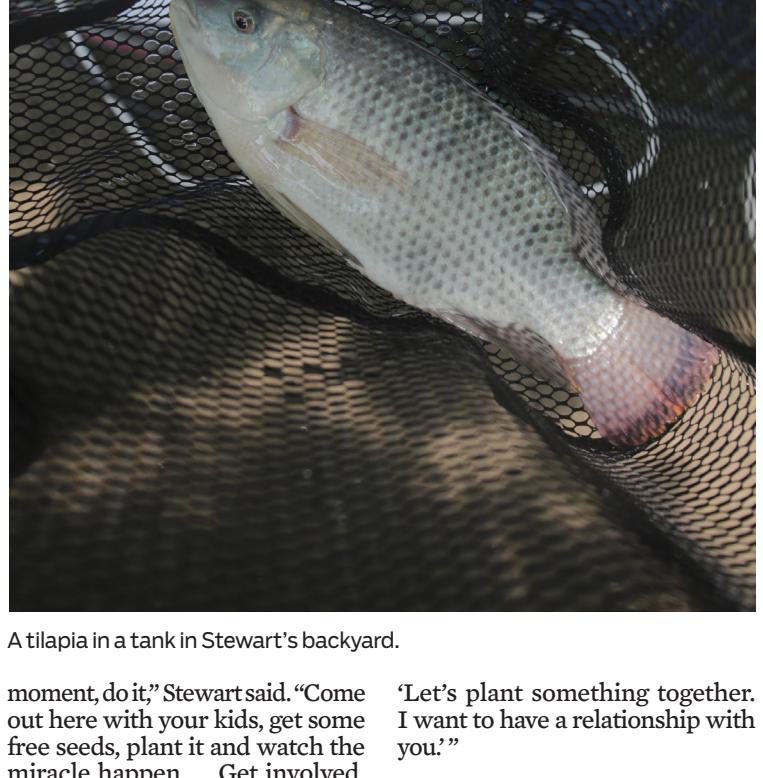
Stewart says he grows everything for his family and anyone who wants to be a part of it.

"It was never for money," he said.

He also uses his backyard farm as a means to connect with his children, Nathaniel, 12, and Akilah, 15.

Akilah wants to be a veterinarian, Stewart said, hence the rabbits. And when he goes into the backyard to do some work, he beckons his kids to help.

"Whatever you can do in the



A tilapia in a tank in Stewart's backyard.

moment, do it," Stewart said. "Come out here with your kids, get some free seeds, plant it and watch the miracle happen. ... Get involved. Drag your kids outside. Get into the sun. Get into the soil. Have that conversation. Listen. ... Tell them,

"Let's plant something together. I want to have a relationship with you!"

Find Stewart and a community of gardeners at FarmWithMe - backyard farming on Facebook.

WORLD & NATION

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WAR IN UKRAINE

Russian cruise missiles strike Kyiv

Putin warns West not to send Ukraine advanced systems

By John Leicester
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Russia took aim Sunday at Western military supplies for Ukraine, launching airstrikes on Kyiv that it claimed destroyed tanks donated from abroad, as Vladimir Putin warned that any Western deliveries of longer-range rocket systems would prompt Moscow to hit “objects that we haven’t yet struck.”

The Russian leader’s cryptic threat of military escalation did not specify what the new targets might be. It came days after the United States announced plans to deliver \$700 million of security assistance for Ukraine that includes four precision-guided, medium-range rocket systems, as well as helicopters, Javelin anti-tank systems, radars, tactical vehicles and more.

Military analysts say Russia hopes to overrun Ukraine’s embattled eastern industrial Donbas region, where Russia-backed separatists have fought the Ukrainian government since 2014, before the arrival of any U.S. weapons that might turn the tide. The Pentagon said last week that it will take at least three weeks to get the U.S. weapons onto the battlefield.

Ukraine said the missiles aimed at the capital hit a train repair shop.

Elsewhere, Russian airstrikes in the eastern city of Druzhkivka destroyed buildings and left at least one



A woman darts past a damaged rail repair facility after Russian missile strikes Sunday in Kyiv. CHRISTOPHER FURLONG/GETTY

person dead, a Ukrainian official said. Residents described waking to the sound of missile strikes, with rubble and glass falling down around them.

“It was like in a horror movie,” Svitlana Romashkina said.

The Russian Defense Ministry said air-launched precision missiles were used to destroy workshops in the Donetsk region of eastern Ukraine, including in Druzhkivka, that were repairing damaged Ukrainian military equipment.

Meanwhile, Ukraine’s General Staff said Russian forces fired five X-22 cruise missiles from the

Caspian Sea toward Kyiv, and one was destroyed by air defenses. Four other missiles hit “infrastructure facilities,” but Ukraine said there were no casualties.

Nuclear plant operator Energoatom said one cruise missile buzzed close to the Pivdennoukrainsk nuclear plant, 220 miles to the south, seemingly on its way to Kyiv. It warned of the possibility of a nuclear catastrophe if even one missile fragment had hit the facility.

The missiles that struck Kyiv destroyed T-72 tanks supplied by Eastern European countries and other armored vehicles, the Russian Defense Ministry said on the Telegram app.

Ukraine’s railway authority subsequently led reporters on a guided tour of a rail car repair plant in eastern Kyiv that it said was hit by four missiles. The authority said no military equipment had been stored there, and reporters saw no remnants of any in the facility’s destroyed building.

“There were no tanks, and you can just be witness to this,” said Serhiy Leshchenko, an adviser to the Ukrainian president’s office.

However, a government adviser said on national TV that military infrastructure also was targeted.

Reporters saw a building burning in an area near the destroyed rail car plant. Two

residents of that district said the warehouse-type structure that billowed smoke was part of a tank-repair facility. Police blocking access to the site told an AP reporter that military authorities had banned the taking of images there.

In a television interview that aired Sunday, Putin lashed out at Western deliveries of weapons to Ukraine, saying they aim to prolong the war.

“All this fuss around additional deliveries of weapons, in my opinion, has only one goal: to drag out the armed conflict as much as possible,” Putin said. He insisted such supplies were unlikely to change the military situation.

ation for Ukraine’s government, which he said was merely making up for losses of similar rockets.

If Kyiv gets longer-range rockets, he added, Moscow will “draw appropriate conclusions and use our means of destruction, which we have plenty of, in order to strike at those objects that we haven’t yet struck.”

The U.S. has stopped short of offering Ukraine longer-range weapons that could fire deep into Russia. But the four medium-range High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems in the security package include launchers on wheels that allow troops to strike a target and then quickly move away — which could be useful against Russian artillery on the battlefield.

The Spanish daily El País reported Sunday that Spain planned to supply anti-aircraft missiles and up to 40 Leopard 2 A4 battle tanks to Ukraine. Spain’s Ministry of Defense did not comment on the report.

Before Sunday’s attack, Kyiv had not faced any such Russian airstrikes since the April 28 visit of U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. The attack triggered air-raid alarms and showed that Russia still had the capability and willingness to hit at Ukraine’s heart, despite refocusing its efforts to capture Ukrainian territory in the east.

In recent days, Russian forces have focused on capturing Ukraine’s eastern cities of Sievierodonetsk and Lysychansk.

On Sunday they continued their push, with missile and airstrikes on cities and villages in the Donbas.

Inflation widening wedge between haves, have-nots

For poor Americans, struggle growing just to make ends meet

By Anne D’Innocenzio and Christopher Rugaber
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Americans at the low end of the income rung are once again struggling to make ends meet.

A confluence of factors — the expiration of federal stimulus checks and surging inflation on staples like gas and food — are driving an even bigger wedge between the haves and have-nots.

While wealthier shoppers continue to splurge, low-income shoppers have pulled back faster than expected in the past two months. They’re focusing on necessities while turning to cheaper items or less expensive stores. And they’re buying only a little at a time.

It’s a reversal from a year or so ago when low-income shoppers, flush with money from the government and buoyed by wage increases, were able to spend more freely.

Kisha Galvan, a 44-year-old mother of eight children from ages 9 to 27, was able to stock up on groceries for the week and buy extras like clothing and shoes at

Walmart for her children last year.

But without the pandemic-related government support and inflation at a near 40-year high, she is buying more canned food and depending on the local food pantry several times a week instead of once a week.

“I shop meal to meal,” said the Rockford, Illinois, resident who has lived on disability for the past 15 years. “Before, we didn’t have to worry about what we were going to get. We just go get it.”

The divide in spending was reflected in the latest round of quarterly earnings for retailers.

At the high end of the spectrum, Nordstrom and Ralph Lauren reported stronger-than-expected sales as their well-heeled shoppers returned to pre-pandemic routines. Lululemon also reported strong quarterly sales of its pricey athletic wear.

But on the other end, Walmart’s customers are switching to cheaper lunch meats and half gallons of milk from full gallons. Kohl’s, a mid-priced department store, said its customers were spending less on each visit. And Gap slashed its annual financial outlook, specifically citing

the strain from inflation at its low-price Old Navy chain.

Both Dollar Tree and Dollar General, which historically benefit from shoppers trading down during difficult economic times, raised their sales outlooks last month. Meanwhile, discounter Big Lots suffered steep sales declines in the latest quarter.

“We are now in a new chapter where high inflation is greatly limiting the ability of consumers to make discretionary purchases, especially of high ticket items,” Big Lots CEO and President Bruce Thorn told analysts late last month. “We know that many Americans now are once again living paycheck-to-paycheck.”

The pullback among low-income shoppers has not affected overall spending, which is still up.

In April, the government said retail sales outpaced inflation for a fourth consecutive month, a reassuring sign that consumers — the primary drivers of America’s economy — are still providing vital support and helping ease concerns that a recession might be near.

But analysts believe even affluent shoppers could retrench if the stock market continues to weaken.

Marshal Cohen, chief

industry adviser at market research firm The NPD Group Inc., said the stock market affects higher income shoppers “psychologically” and more losses on paper could make them cut back.

The spending mood has shifted from last October and November, when the Fed conducted a survey and found that almost eight in 10 adults were “doing okay or living comfortably” when it came to their finances in 2021, the highest proportion to say so since the survey began in 2013.

For those earning less than \$25,000, the proportion that said they were doing at least “OK” jumped to 53% from 40%.

But inflation has taken a bigger bite out of personal budgets and wiped away some of the wage gains, especially for those who earn less.

The national average cost of a gallon of gas, for example, has jumped to \$4.76 from \$4.20 a month ago and a painful 56% from a year earlier, according to AAA.

At the Northern Illinois Food Bank, which

feeds people in 13 counties including Galvan and her family, the average monthly number of visits grew to more than 400,000 in the February through April period, from 311,000 in the July through September period, according to president and CEO Julie Yurko.

Across the economy, median wages jumped 6% in April from a year earlier, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. But even though that was the largest increase since 1990, it was still below the inflation rate of 8.3%.



Prince Charles, Queen Elizabeth II and Prince George take in the pageantry of Platinum Jubilee festivities Sunday. Thousands attended the celebration. CHRIS JACKSON/WPA

Festive pageant caps queen’s Platinum Jubilee

By Sylvia Hui and Danica Kirka
Associated Press

LONDON — In a crowning moment for her Platinum Jubilee, Queen Elizabeth II appeared at the balcony of Buckingham Palace on Sunday, delighting fans who had hoped to catch a glimpse of her during the final day of festivities marking the monarch’s 70 years on the throne.

The 96-year-old monarch has curtailed her schedule

in recent months due to problems moving around. Prior to Sunday, the queen had only appeared in public twice — both on Thursday — during the four-day holiday weekend celebrations.

Officials said she experienced “discomfort” during those events.

Thousands of people who

massed outside Buckingham Palace for the climax of a boisterous, colorful

pageant cheered as the

monarch appeared on the

balcony with her son and

heir, Prince Charles, his wife Camilla, and her eldest grandson Prince William and his family.

The queen waved and smiled after the crowds belted out “God Save The Queen.”

Her appearance, which lasted only a few minutes, was followed by a crowd-pleasing performance of ABBA’s “Dancing Queen.”

It was an uplifting finale

to a massive street pageant

celebrating the queen’s life

and highlighting Britain’s diversity.

Thousands of people turned out on the streets of London, many speaking with excitement and pride about their queen and country.

Afterward, the monarch issued a statement thanking all those who celebrated her Platinum Jubilee.

“When it comes to how to mark seventy years as your Queen, there is no guidebook to follow. It really is a first,” she said.

WORLD&NATION**NEWS BRIEFING****Breast cancer drug could offer more help to some, doctors say**

From news services

For the first time, a drug targeting a protein that drives breast cancer growth has been shown to work against tumors with very low levels of the protein.

It's not a cure.

But this latest gain for targeted cancer therapy could open new treatment possibilities to thousands of patients with advanced breast cancer.

Until now, breast cancers have been categorized as either HER2-positive — the cancer cells have more of the protein than normal — or HER2-negative. Doctors reporting the advance Sunday said it will make "HER2-low" a new category for guiding breast cancer treatment.

About half of patients with late-stage breast cancer formerly categorized as HER2-negative may actually be HER2-low and eligible for the drug.

The drug is Enhertu, an antibody-chemotherapy combo given by IV. It finds and blocks the HER2 protein on cancer cells, while also unloading a powerful cancer-killing chemical inside those cells. It belongs to a relatively new class of drugs called anti-body-drug conjugates.

The drug was already approved for HER2-positive breast cancer, and in April the Food and Drug Administration granted it breakthrough status for this new group of patients.

In the new study, the drug lengthened the time patients lived without their cancer progressing and improved survival compared with patients given standard chemotherapy.

The drug, which costs about \$14,000 a month, can have severe complications.

Three patients in the study died of a lung disease

that's a known hazard of the drug. Doctors need to make sure patients report breathing problems right away so the drug can be stopped and patients treated with steroids.

The findings were featured Sunday at the annual meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology in Chicago and published by the New England Journal of Medicine. Funding for the study came from Tokyo-based Daiichi Sankyo and U.K.-based AstraZeneca, which jointly developed the drug.

Summit of the Americas: When leaders gather this week in Los Angeles at the Summit of the Americas, the focus is likely to veer from common policy changes — migration, climate change and galloping inflation — and instead shift to something Hollywood thrives on: the drama of the red carpet.

With Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador topping a list of leaders threatening to stay home to protest the U.S.' exclusion of authoritarian leaders from Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela, experts say the event could turn into an embarrassment for President Joe Biden.

Even some progressive Democrats have criticized the administration for bowing to pressure from exiles in the swing state of Florida and barring communist Cuba, which attended the last two summits.

"The real question is why the Biden administration didn't do its homework," said Jorge Castañeda, a former Mexican foreign minister who now teaches at New York University.

While the Biden administration insists Biden will outline his vision for a "sustainable, resilient, and equitable future" for the



Volcanic scare in Philippines: A volcano 375 miles southeast of Manila spews ash and steam a half-mile into the sky Sunday, scattering ash on nearby villages and alarming residents. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology raised the alert level at Mount Bulusan after the 17-minute blast but added there was no sign of a major eruption. **KARLYN DUPAN HAMOR/AP**

hemisphere, Castañeda said it's clear from the last-minute wrangling over the guest list that Latin America is not a priority for the U.S. president.

"This ambitious agenda, no one knows exactly what it is, other than a series of bromides," he said.

The U.S. is hosting the summit for the first time since its launch in Miami in 1994.

Deadly Bangladesh fire: A massive fire at a container depot near a port city in southeastern Bangladesh killed at least 49 people, including nine firefighters, and injured more than 100 others, officials and local media reported Sunday, as efforts to extinguish the blaze continued into a second night.

The inferno at the BM Inland Container Depot, a Dutch-Bangladesh joint venture, broke out around midnight Saturday following explosions in a container full of chemicals. The cause

of the fire could not be immediately determined. The depot is located near the country's main Chittagong Seaport, 135 miles southeast of the capital, Dhaka.

At least nine firefighters were among the dead, according to Brig. Gen. Main Uddin, director general of the Bangladesh fire service and civil defense. More than 10 others were being treated for burns, he added.

Nigerian church attack: Gunmen opened fire on worshippers and detonated explosives at a Catholic church in southwestern Nigeria on Sunday, leaving dozens feared dead, state lawmakers said.

The attackers targeted the St. Francis Catholic Church in Ondo state just as the worshippers gathered on Pentecost Sunday, legislator Ogumolasuyi Oluwole said. Among the dead were many children, he said.

The presiding priest was abducted as well, said Adelegbe Timileyin, who

represents the Owo area in Nigeria's lower legislative chamber.

"Our hearts are heavy," Ondo Governor Rotimi Akeredolu tweeted Sunday. "Our peace and tranquility have been attacked by the enemies of the people."

Authorities did not release an official death toll.

French weather: Fierce thunderstorms and hailstorms around France left one woman dead and 14 people injured, ravaged vineyards and delayed flights.

Lightning hit the Eiffel Tower, without causing damage, and set roofs on fire east of Paris, according to local authorities.

Residents of southwest France posted photos online of hail the size of tennis balls, and drivers in the Paris region shared images of flooded highways and daytime skies blackened by thunder clouds.

Thousands of households remained without electricity Sunday after the storms

struck across France on Saturday, according to utility Enedis.

Speculation on pope: Pope Francis added fuel to rumors about the future of his pontificate by announcing he would visit the central Italian city of L'Aquila in August for a feast initiated by Pope Celestine V, one of the few pontiffs who resigned before Pope Benedict XVI stepped down in 2013.

Italian and Catholic media have been rife with speculation that Francis, 85, might be planning to follow in Benedict's footsteps, given his increased mobility problems that have forced him to use a wheelchair recently.

Those rumors gained steam last week when Francis announced a consistory to create 21 new cardinals scheduled for Aug. 27. Sixteen of those cardinals are under age 80 and eligible to vote in a conclave to elect Francis' successor.

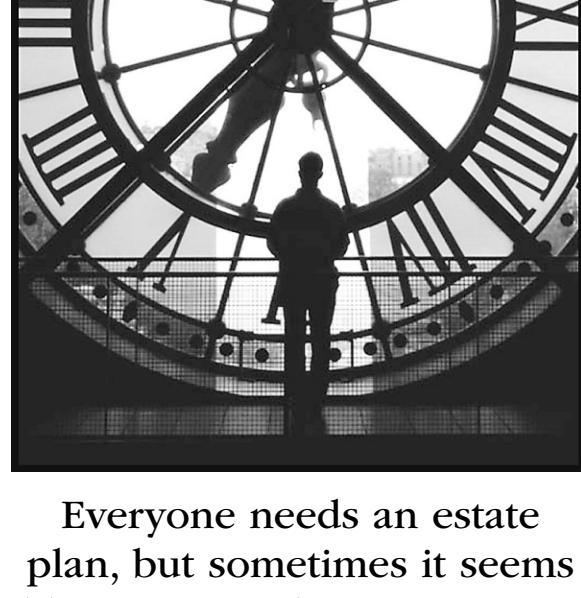
Francis was elected pope in 2013.

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Wednesday, June 8

2:00pm-4:00pm

(Refreshments)

The Whittemore at Vyne

1365 Whittemore Road

MIDDLEBURY

Wednesday, June 8

7:00pm-9:00pm

(Coffee & Dessert)

The Whittemore at Vyne

1365 Whittemore Road

BRISTOL

Thursday, June 9

10:00am-12:00noon

(Continental Breakfast)

The Carousel Museum

95 Riverside Avenue

DANBURY

Saturday, June 11

10:00am-12:00noon

(Continental Breakfast)

Ethan Allen Hotel

21 Lake Avenue Ext.

DANBURY

Saturday, June 11

2:00pm-4:00pm

(Refreshments)

Ethan Allen Hotel

21 Lake Avenue Ext.

Pro-gun extremism thrives online

Space emerges as a breeding ground for potential recruits

By David Klepper
Associated Press

The young man in the jeans and sunglasses proudly shows off his gun in the YouTube video. He then instructs his 1 million subscribers how to fit extra ammo on his belt, and offers a chilling observation.

"Pretty cool for active shooter stuff, if you need extra mags."

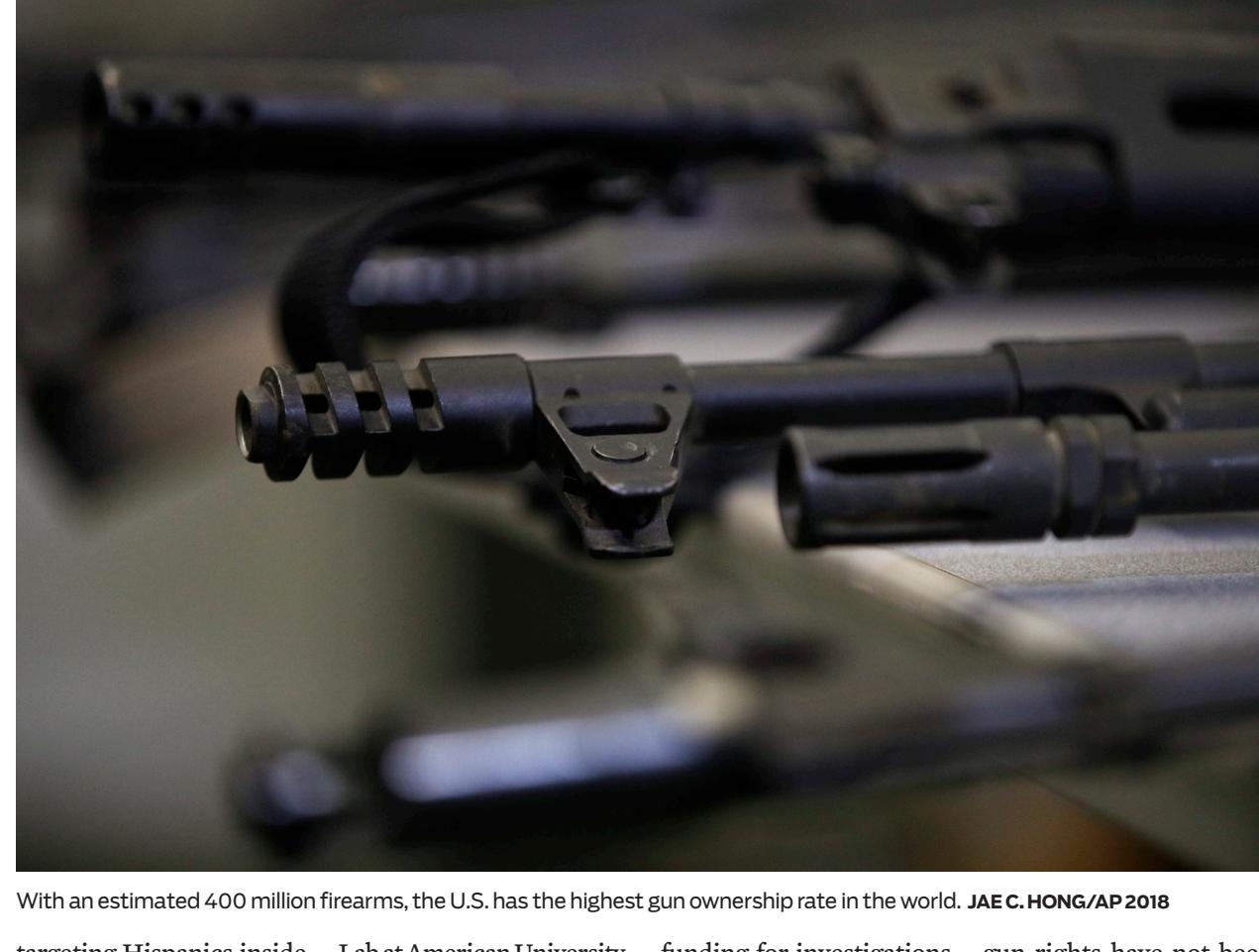
It's one of thousands of videos teaching military-style training and tactics to civilian gun owners, offering instructions on silencers and grenade launchers, on shooting from vehicles or into buildings. Other websites sell kits for ghost guns — firearms without serial numbers — gas masks and body armor.

"You shouldn't be scared of the NRA. You should be scared of us," one online ghost gun dealer tweeted recently.

As Americans reel from repeated mass shootings, law enforcement officials and experts on extremism are taking increasing notice of the sprawling online space devoted to guns and gun rights: forums, tactical training videos and social media platforms where far-right gun owners swap tips with talk of dark plots to take their weapons.

It's an ecosystem rich with potential recruits for extremist groups exploiting the often blurry line separating traditional support for a Constitutional right from militant anti-government movements that champion racism and violence.

White supremacists have carried out most of the deadliest attacks on U.S. soil in the last five years, including a 2018 shooting inside a Pittsburgh synagogue that left 11 dead and a 2019 rampage in which a gunman



With an estimated 400 million firearms, the U.S. has the highest gun ownership rate in the world. JAE C. HONG/AP 2018

targeting Hispanics inside a Texas Walmart killed 23 people.

The gunman who perpetrated last month's rampage in Buffalo, New York, that left 10 Black people dead, claimed in a rambling racist diatribe that he was radicalized when pandemic boredom led him to far-right social media groups and tactical-training videos online.

One of the companies cited by the gunman sells firearm accessories and operates popular social media channels boasting hundreds of training videos.

The videos cover topics like assaulting a building, using gas masks while shooting, and night vision goggles.

"I think we're going to see an increase in these kinds of attacks," said Kurt Braddock, a professor and extremism researcher at the Polarization and Extremism Research and Innovation

Lab at American University. "Until we're able to figure out a way to address this, this kind of disinformation is going to keep spreading, and with it the risk of increased radicalization and violence."

Elected leaders in some states are considering how to address the internet's role in radicalizing extremists. New York lawmakers recently introduced legislation to require social media companies to set policies on "hateful conduct" and to create mechanisms for users to report disturbing posts they may read.

New York Attorney General Letitia James initiated an investigation into some of the platforms used by the Buffalo gunman, who streamed his attack on Twitch, which is owned by Amazon. Twitch pulled the livestream after about two minutes.

Federal authorities have also taken notice, increasing

funding for investigations into domestic terrorism, a challenge FBI Director Christopher Wray last year described as "metastasizing." But there's little law enforcement can do but monitor as extremists use the threat of gun control to recruit new members.

Extremists paint any effort to regulate firearms as the prelude to widespread gun seizures, according to Callum Hood, director of research at the Center for Countering Digital Hate, a U.K.-based organization that researches online extremism and abuse.

"The message quickly becomes 'the government is coming to take your guns and leave you undefended,'" Hood said. That's despite the obvious political challenges that even modest attempts at gun control face in the U.S.

Despite a long and growing list of mass shootings,

gun rights have not been restricted in any significant way in the U.S. in decades.

Rather than be under threat, guns are flourishing.

Since 2000, the year after Columbine school shooting in Colorado where 12 students and a teacher were killed, the number of firearms manufactured in the U.S. has tripled. There are now an estimated 400 million guns in the U.S. — more than one for everyone in the country — giving the nation the world's highest gun ownership rate.

Gun manufacturers and industry groups like the National Rifle Association bear some responsibility for unfounded conspiracy theories about federal plots to seize American's guns, according to Braddock.

"What's the first rule in salesmanship? It's to create the need for the item. We think about guns as something different — and they

are because they're instruments of violence — but they're also commodities sold in huge quantities," Braddock said. "They're creating the illusion of need."

When contacted by The Associated Press, one website selling ghost gun kits responded with a statement saying "all questions" about regulating firearms amount to "naked attempts to disarm traditional Americans, weaponize the government against them, and subject them to the ignorant and vicious tools of federal power."

While some of the creators of tactical-training videos posted on platforms like YouTube say their intended audience is law enforcement, others say their subscriber base is mostly those looking to arm themselves against the government.

Despite their alarm, law enforcement officials and experts on extremism caution there's little to do about the growing online spaces devoted to military-style weaponry unless they find evidence of illegal gun sales or other crimes.

For their part, tech companies and social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter say they have rules to prohibit violent threats, hate speech and other content that poses a direct harm. Some platforms also prohibit the sale of firearms.

Further restrictions on content about guns or even extremism will only backfire anyway, according to Amy Cooter, an expert on militias. While efforts to ban users might be successful in the short term, they're bound to fail as those users flee to other platforms with less moderation.

"If we want to reduce the size of the movement, deplatforming is really effective," Cooter said. "But if we want to deradicalize it, it is not. The most extreme elements will find other ways to stay connected."



Police investigators work the scene Sunday of a fatal overnight shooting on South Street in Philadelphia. Gunfire from several shooters killed three people, police said. MICHAEL PEREZ/AP

At least 9 dead, dozens hurt in weekend shootings in 3 states

Associated Press

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — At least three shootings in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Tennessee left nine people dead and multiple others injured late Saturday and early Sunday, authorities said.

The weekend shootings occurred in the wake of mass shootings in Buffalo, N.Y., Uvalde, Texas, and Tulsa, Okla. Also, the recent Memorial Day weekend saw multiple shootings nationwide.

In Michigan: Three people were killed in an early morning shooting Sunday in Saginaw, about 100 miles northwest of Detroit.

MLive.com reported that police responded to a report of multiple gunshots around 2:30 a.m. Sunday. Two men were pronounced dead at the scene. A woman died later at a hospital of her wounds.

Two other men also were shot.

They arrived at a hospital in personal vehicles and were being treated for their injuries, according to a news release from the Saginaw Police Department.

In Pennsylvania: Gunfire from several shooters killed three people and wounded at least 11 others in a popular Philadelphia entertainment district late Saturday night, authorities said.

Police officers were patrolling the area on South Street in central Philadelphia about 11:30 p.m. Saturday when they heard multiple shots. Racing to the scene, they found several people with gunshot wounds lying on the sidewalk and in the street and began to render aid, Police Commissioner Danielle Outlaw said.

Outlaw said the dead were a 34-year-old man, a 27-year-old woman and a 22-year-old man. Investigators believe one of the three killed was involved in a "physical altercation" with another man, and those two began firing at each other, with both struck by gunfire and one killed, Outlaw said.

He called it "a dark day" for the city when many people out enjoying a beautiful day were victims of "horrendous and unthinkable acts ... in a very popular local and tourist hangout."

In Tennessee: A shooting

near a Chattanooga nightclub early Sunday led to three deaths and 14 people suffering gunshot wounds and other injuries, police said.

Fourteen people were hit by gunfire and three were hit by vehicles while trying to flee the scene, according to Chattanooga police Chief Celeste Murphy. Two people died from gunshot wounds and one person died after being hit by a vehicle. Sixteen of the victims were adults and one was a juvenile, she said.

Chattanooga Mayor Tim Kelly, who described himself as an "avid hunter" and gun owner, called on Congress to enact "common sense regulations" to address gun violence.

Kelly is an independent. "That doesn't mean taking guns away from responsible gun owners, but it does mean mandatory background checks and prohibiting high-capacity magazines that allow shooters to hurt dozens of people without even having to reload," he said. Kelly said his administration would announce new steps soon aimed at reducing gun violence locally.

US Navy lieutenant in Japan faces prison over fatal crash

By Eric Tucker

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For Ridge Alkonis, a U.S. Navy lieutenant living in Japan, a springtime trip with his wife and three children to Mount Fuji was intended as fun and leisurely family time before an expected deployment.

What happened next, and why, is a matter of dispute. But it gave rise to a three-year prison sentence.

In the telling by Alkonis' family and supporters, the naval officer abruptly lost consciousness in the car, causing him to slump over behind the wheel after suffering acute mountain sickness. Japanese prosecutors and the judge who sentenced him contend he fell asleep while drowsy, shirking a duty to pull over immediately.

No matter the cause, Alkonis' car veered into parked cars and pedestrians in a parking lot, striking an elderly woman and her son-in-law, both of whom later died. With a Japanese court set to hear an appeal Wednesday of Alkonis' prison sentence, his parents are pleading for leniency for an act they say was nothing more than a terrible accident but that prosecutors view as deadly negligence.

He is home in Japan pending the appeal.

"The word that comes to our mind is fairness. We want him to be treated fairly for an accident," said Alkonis' father, Derek Alkonis, of Dana Point, California. "We don't feel like it's been that way. We know it hasn't been that way. And it concerns us that our son has been given a three-year prison sentence for an accident."

The victims' families could not be contacted by The Associated Press because their names are redacted in court records reviewed by the AP.

The upcoming hearing is the latest development in the case against Alkonis, 34, a specialist in underwater warfare and acoustic engineering who has spent nearly seven years in Japan as a civilian volunteer and naval officer.



Derek and Suzi Alkonis pose in front of photos of their son, Lt. Ridge Alkonis, last week in Dana Point, Calif. DENIS POROY/AP

in the case against Alkonis, 34, a specialist in underwater warfare and acoustic engineering who has spent nearly seven years in Japan as a civilian volunteer and naval officer.

In the spring of 2021, after a period of land-based assignments, the Southern California native was preparing for a deployment as a department head on the USS Benfold, a missile destroyer.

On May 29, 2021, with the assignment looming, his family set out for an excursion of Mount Fuji hiking and sightseeing.

They had climbed a portion of the mountain and were back in the car, heading to lunch and ice cream near the base of Mount Fuji. Alkonis was talking with his daughter, then 7, when his family says he fell unconscious behind the wheel.

He was so out of it, they say, that neither his daughter's screams to wake up nor the impact of the collision roused him.

After the crash near Fujinomiya, he was arrested by Japanese authorities and held for 26 days in solitary confinement at a police detention facility, interrogated multiple times a day and was not given a medical treatment or evaluation,

according to a statement of facts by a family spokesman. That statement says that when American authorities arrived to take Alkonis into custody and return him to a U.S. base, he already was held by the Japanese.

He was indicted on a charge of a negligent driving, resulting in death, and sentenced last October to three years in prison. The charge carries up to seven years imprisonment in Japan. He has appealed.

English-language court records obtained by the AP show the judge expressed skepticism over the mountain sickness claim, citing an initial statement from Alkonis to police in which he said he felt drowsy after driving through mountainous curves.

He later testified to feeling sudden mountain sickness — a finding supported by a neurologist's June 2021 diagnosis — but the judge said such a sensation should have abated as Alkonis drove down the mountain.

The judge said that though it was conceivable Alkonis was suffering from light mountain sickness, it was difficult to imagine he went from not feeling drowsy at all to becoming suddenly incapacitated.

Helen Bennett
Executive Editor
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OPINION

COURANT.COM / OPINION

OP-ED

Is Paris too delinquent to host Olympics?

By Rachel Marsden

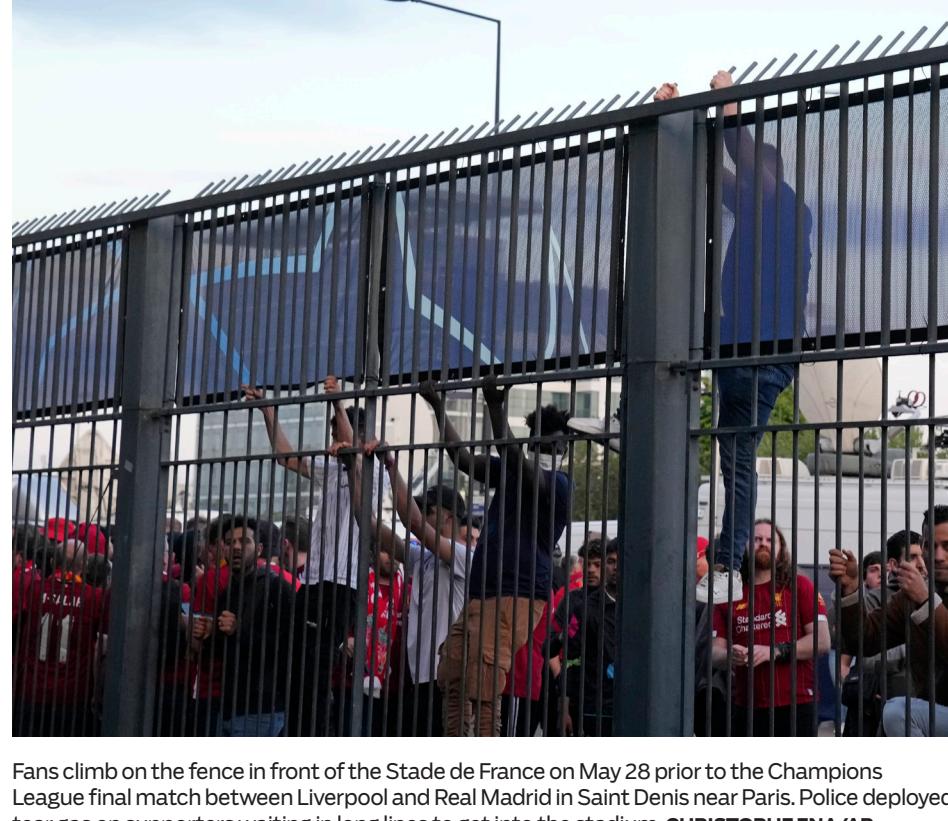
PARIS — French President Emmanuel Macron fought hard to have the Union of European Football Associations final of the Champions League hosted in Paris when the prior venue of Saint Petersburg, Russia, was nixed when the fighting broke out between Ukraine and Russia. "For Macron, officials said, swiping the final from Russia was seen as a coup," Politico reported on Feb. 25, as the league announced the change of venue to the Stade de France in the northern Parisian suburbs of Saint-Denis.

In the run-up to the May 28 event, trouble was already being foreshadowed. French professional football coach and former FIFA World Cup and UEFA top scoring medalist, Thierry Henry, told a CBS Sports broadcast on May 8, during a discussion about the upcoming championship: "Technically, the stadium is in Saint-Denis, not in Paris. Trust me, you don't want to be in Saint-Denis. It's not the same as Paris."

The city's mayor fired back at Henry on Facebook. "The contempt with which you have characterized our city is not acceptable," Mayor Mathieu Hanotin said. "The situation in the suburbs today is the result of a concentration of poverty on the outskirts of Paris and an abandonment of the State for working-class neighborhoods (...) This failure of public policies should not be a pretext for ridicule from well-known personalities."

Even the town's own mayor is hardly denying that there's a major security problem. Because to do so would be virtually impossible, or else suggest a major disconnect with reality so dire that it would warrant psychological assessment.

Saint-Denis is routinely ranked as one of the most dangerous cities in France. According to Le Figaro newspaper, Saint-Denis has a personal property and theft rate that more than doubles the national average, and a personal violence rate over three times higher. The city was also the site of a major police raid for harboring the alleged perpetrators of the Nov. 13, 2015, terrorist attacks on the Bata-



Fans climb on the fence in front of the Stade de France on May 28 prior to the Champions League final match between Liverpool and Real Madrid in Saint Denis near Paris. Police deployed tear gas on supporters waiting in long lines to get into the stadium. CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

clan concert hall, Stade de France, and the sidewalk patios of several restaurants and cafes, which killed 130 people and injured another 413.

So it's hardly surprising that when supporters of Real Madrid and Liverpool F.C. descended on Saint-Denis' Stade de France for game day, visitors reported insecurity problems. Jason McAteer, a former Liverpool player, told the British press that his wife was mugged and his son was attacked. Both the league and French authorities blamed Liverpool fans, some of whom had been suckered into buying fake tickets, for causing a bottleneck at the entry that sparked further unrest, with videos posted to social media showing young fans and locals exploiting the situation by hopping over the gates to gain free

entry.

As police lost control of the situation, unable to separate the troublemakers from families with legitimate tickets, they simply opened fire indiscriminately on the crowd with tear gas. Meanwhile, the kickoff was delayed by a puzzlingly precise 36 minutes to 9:36 p.m. local time, while other attendees grappled with a local transit strike of transport workers whose unions had declared their intention to deliberately target the event with their job action.

British culture minister Nadine Dorries has since demanded that the league probe French police actions during the incident. The least shocked by the series of incidents were the French people, who have grown accustomed to the routine tear gassing of

protests in the capital as a means of basic crowd control. The Yellow Vest protests, which dominated the streets of Paris and other French cities for months prior to the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns, resulted in the loss of a couple dozen eyes and five hands, attributed by victims to police action.

Meanwhile, tourists on the ritzy Champs-Elysees have returned home in the past few years with memories of being doused with tear gas. So clearly little has changed with respect to French authorities' ability to manage a potent mix of growing organic insecurity coupled with the chaos of spontaneous crowds. Which raises the question of how France will manage the 2024 Paris summer Olympics, particularly with the athletes' village and several of the slated sporting events set to be based in Saint-Denis.

Last year, Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo evoked in Paris Match magazine the future "legacy" of the games, "first of all for Seine-Saint-Denis, the youngest, most cosmopolitan department in France and which needed this trust granted." Well, "cosmopolitan" is one way to put it. Another way is that if you fail to place external barriers or standards to protect your country, you'll eventually find yourself erecting them everywhere internally — or else dealing with chaos borne of your delusion.

Speaking of fantasies, recent former Socialist Party presidential candidate Hidalgo also spearheaded the concept of the open-air opening ceremonies for the 2024 Games. For the first time ever, according to the Paris 2024 website, the opening ceremonies "will be held in the heart of the city, along its main artery, the Seine." While admittedly creative, it nonetheless smacks of a security nightmare. But that's generally what you tend to get when you replace pragmatic realism with ideologically fueled fantasy.

Rachel Marsden is a columnist, political strategist and host of independently produced talk shows in French and English. Her website can be found at <http://www.rachelmarsden.com>.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why must we endure carnage for gun lovers?

Another Memorial Day and I contemplate all of the brave men and women who served this country and died to preserve the freedom that we have come to enjoy: freedom to pray or not, freedom of the press, freedom to protest, freedom in the pursuit of happiness. Sadly, we might need to introduce a bill to create a new kind of Memorial Day, one that honors children and adults giving their lives so that AR-15s can continue to proliferate in our society; so that anyone with any serious anger issues can freely purchase these weapons; so that those in Congress can continue to let the NRA dictate political influence; so that people can believe the lie that they need a military assault rifle that rips apart bodies of our future generations in their classrooms.

But there is one caveat in the consideration of a newly added Memorial Day: These children and adults did not freely sign up for the carnage that some politicians and gun lovers asked them to endure so that they could have their freedom and deny culpability.

Pamela Fine, East Hartford

Call NRA leaders what they are: Oligarchs

Seeing how much power the NRA has to stifle gun control laws in this country, I believe we should start using the term "oligarchs" to describe the leaders of the NRA. Please consider using this term in future coverage of gun violence.

Rich Kramer, Berlin, Massachusetts

A disrespectful Trump at NRA convention

Just three days after 19 children and two teachers were massacred by an 18-year-old gunman, Donald Trump spoke at the NRA convention 300 miles away in Houston. Did he talk about needed gun reform, such as raising the legal age to buy a gun to at least 21? Of course not. Did he show remorse for the dead? Not at all. Was he empathetic? He was not. The man is an empty husk incapable of showing empathy. What he did was even worse. He blamed the incident on everyone and everything but guns.

He and his cronies like Ted Cruz said all

we need to do is arm teachers. They failed to mention that there were 19 armed officers at this school. How did that work out? Then he proceeded to read the victims' names aloud, butchering the pronunciation of many. And if that wasn't bad enough, he even threw in a little dance while smiling. It leaves me with two questions. How does any human being with a heart and soul support this despicable person? Secondly, why won't he just go away?

Kevin Knox, Litchfield

Distribution of weapons defies common sense

At the NRA convention last weekend, Donald Trump told the audience that "the existence of evil is one of the very good reasons to arm law-abiding citizens." But the NRA political agenda aims to thwart all efforts to determine who is law-abiding and who might be evil, opting instead to "Just sell a gun to anyone. Let God sort it out." The indiscriminate distribution of weapons of mass murder defies all common sense, and justifies the perception that the acronym NRA now stands for "Not Rational Anymore."

John Boland, Pomfret

Keep weapons of war away from the public

Another black mark on politicians who are more afraid of the gun lobby and the NRA than for the safety and well-being of our children and adults. People are nervous about going to church, school, the grocery store and anywhere that a man with a gun might be. When Columbine happened we thought things would change, but no, the politicians got onboard with the stupid idea that we need more guns to stop the violence. Well that didn't work. Since then more than 300,000 people have died from gun violence, including here at Sandy Hook.

Uvalde, Texas is the latest mass gun disaster, just 10 days after Buffalo, New York. It's time to stop the carnage, say the hell with the Second Amendment and abolish weapons of war in the hands of the public. People don't need a weapon they say is for hunting that would destroy any animal. We don't need those guns in the hands of the public.

Barbara Ouellette, Plymouth

OP-ED

Now is no time to go tentative on military aid

By George F. Will

The Washington Post

"If you start to take Vienna, take Vienna" — Napoleon, reportedly

WASHINGTON — A prolific maker of widows, orphans and history, Napoleon was a war savant who understood the perils of tentativeness. As U.S. and allied weapons — including information — are wielded by Ukraine against a Russia that aspires to be rampant in its region, the military and diplomatic dangers of hesitancy are mounting.

The annual World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, earns some of the derision it receives ("Where billionaires tell millionaires what the middle class is thinking"), but occasionally it puts a world leader in a useful spotlight, hence on the spot. On May 26, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz told the forum: The world "experienced a thunderbolt" when Russia invaded Ukraine. This will "end Germany and Europe's dependence on energy imports from Russia. ... We cannot allow Putin to win his war," so we must "make it clear to Putin that there will be no victor's peace."

Another German, Ursula von der Leyen, president of the European Commission, says Ukraine "must win" because it is "one of us." She thereby supplied the answer to the foolish question of whether Ukraine — geographically, the largest nation located entirely in Europe — belongs in the European Union.

Scholz's thunderous words included: "We have an unequivocal message for our allies: You can rely on Germany!" And: "For the first time ever, Germany is supplying arms to a war zone — including heavy weapons." Words are, however, unable to enable Ukraine to defeat Russia's patent aim of piecemeal dismemberment of it. The Wall Street Journal reports that Germany has not sent tanks to Ukraine, has not yet sent to Poland and the Czech Republic the promised weapons to replace the tanks those nations (from Poland, more than 240 Soviet-designed T72s) have sent to Ukraine. Germany, the Journal reports, has "agreed to ship" seven heavy artillery pieces, but Europe's largest economy has actually sent military aid worth just \$215 million — less than Estonia's contribution.

"We believe," says Polish President Andrzej Duda, "that this is a war on civilization." Who dissents?

All wars end, usually with negotiations. It is imperative that Ukraine start negotiating from a position of strength. Last week's E.U. decision to embargo 90% of Russian oil imports by year's end was especially heartening, given Europe's low pain threshold. But the battlefield matters first and most in determining — and defin-

ing — victory.

In his 1951 speech to Congress after President Harry S. Truman relieved him of command in the Korean War, Gen. Douglas MacArthur proclaimed: "There is no substitute for victory." Actually, there are gradations of victory, hence there were substitutes for victory as Americans — fresh from a world war concluded by unconditional surrenders — then understood it. In December 1952, what President-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower saw, hunched in a tiny plane flying over the Korean front, confirmed his intuition: Military victory would require effusions of blood disproportionate to any U.S. geopolitical gain — and beyond Americans' tolerance.

The United States' choice today is different. The country's potential gains from sustaining Ukraine's valorous expenditure of its blood are enormous. After visiting Kyiv, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said on May 1 that the United States is "with Ukraine until victory is won." Victory should have two elements.

One is that combat ends with Russia diminished — more militarily vulnerable, economically ramshackle and internationally disdained than it was when its aggression began. This has been achieved, but the achievement must be preserved by a second element:

Never mind war reparations; war-crime prosecutions; the return of Ukrainian territory previously annexed by Russia, such as Crimea; or even the end of Russian mischief in Ukrainian regions with large Russian-speaking populations. What matters in preventing Scholz's "victor's peace" is restoration of the (albeit untidy) geographic status quo of Feb. 24.

Putin wanted to restore his nation's swagger. Russia now limps into a shrunken future as a moral pariah, its stumbling military in the shadow of an enlarged NATO. Gideon Rachman of the Financial Times reports U.S. estimates that Russia has lost about 1,000 tanks, that shortages of components have forced two tank manufacturers to halt production and that Russia's semiconductor shortage is so severe it is "using computer chips from dishwashers and refrigerators in military equipment." This is the time to increase Ukraine's sting.

The United States' adversaries in Afghanistan said: You have the wristwatches, but we have the time. Barbarians like Putin often believe that societies defined by brute stamina can prevail against societies that are more sophisticated than implacable. Ukraine's supporters should avoid the temptation — the military folly — of tentativeness.

George F. Will writes on politics and domestic and foreign affairs for The Washington Post.

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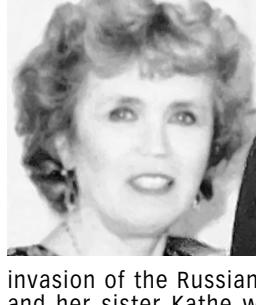
OBITUARIES BY TOWN**East Hartford**
Kathryn A. Lombardo**Newington**
Anna Madeia

* Denotes name listing only.
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES**Lombardo, Kathryn Ann**

Kathy Lombardo, lifelong resident of East Hartford Connecticut passed peacefully this week at home in East Hartford. Kathy was 67, born July 7, 1954. She was the daughter of John and Helen (Matchett) Lombardo. Kathy was a 1972 graduate of Penny High School. Keep the good thoughts of Kathy. She leaves behind her brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. Arrangements are private as she wanted. Thank you Johnnie.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Madeia, Anna (Stein)

Anna (Stein) Madeia, of Newington, passed away Friday, June 3rd surrounded by family. Anni was born June 17, 1932 in Hollumtz in the Tatra Mountains, in what is now Slovakia, to parents Jakob and Katherina Stein. She grew up living in a small farming village next door to her grandparents until her family was displaced by the invasion of the Russian army during World War II. Anni and her sister Kathe were taken to Austria until they were reunited with their parents after the war.

Her family eventually settled in Fulda, Germany where Anni became a hairdresser by trade. On August 6, 1955 at the age of 23, Anni came to the United States after receiving a ticket to travel on the USS General Langfitt from her Tante Anna. After settling in West Hartford, she diligently learned the language by attending night school. It was soon after Anni arrived that she met the love of her life, Roy Madeia, at the Hartford Saengerbund. Anni was a member of the Hartford Saengerbund since January 1958 and a member and singer of the Meriden Turner Society for over 25 years.

Anni was a down to earth and caring mother to 4 children and Oma to 8 grandchildren and she had 3 great-grandchildren. She selflessly dedicated many years to raising her grandchildren later in life. Anni was a passionate knitter and seamstress making blankets and outfits for her grandchildren. She was also an avid gardener, maintaining a spot in the Newington Community Garden for over 20 years. Anni truly loved all the simple pleasures in life.

Anni was predeceased by her husband, Roy, her sister, Kathe, and her daughter in law, Erica. She is survived by her four children, Lori (Bob) Lutzen, Steven Madeia, Linda (Lance) Frazon, Ronald Madeia. Anni leaves her eight grandchildren, Melinda (Pat) O'Connor and Matthew Lutzen, Kristen and Jeffrey Madeia, Jennifer (Justin) Frazon-Patrick and Shaylynn Frazon, Carley and Alissa Madeia, and three great grandchildren, Patrick and Thomas O'Connor, and Jack Patrick, who were the light of her life. She also leaves a nephew, Gerhard (Andrea) Bausewein and family in Germany.

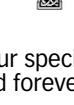
To respect Anni's wishes, there will be no calling hours and the funeral service will be private. There will be a Celebration of Life for friends and family on Tuesday, June 7th at 1:30pm at the Hartford Saengerbund 719 N Mountain Rd Newington, CT. To offer online condolences, visit www.rosehillfuneralhomes.com. Memorial contributions may be made in Anni's memory to the Hartford Saengerbund or the association of the donor's choice.

Gute Nacht, Schlaf Schön

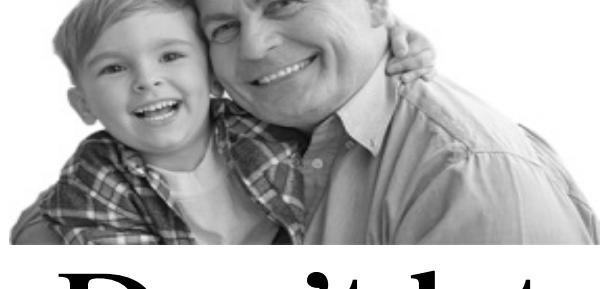
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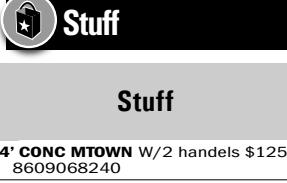
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Connecticut

PROPERTY AUCTION

The tax collector of the Town of East Haddam and/or the Property Owners Association of Lake Hayward has levied upon the following properties in East Haddam and slated them for public auction to satisfy delinquent taxes and charges under C.G.S. § 12-157. Volume and page numbers refer to the Town's land records; maps refer to the Town's assessment maps. Unless paid, these properties will be auctioned in "as is" condition at 1:00 p.m. on August 23, 2022 at the Town Office Building at 1 Plains Road in Moodus.

432 Town Street (Volume 261 Page 10) owned by Richard F. Anderson and Edith L. Anderson or their Estates; and Luigi J. Chinetti a/k/a Luigi Chinetti may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

42 Forest Way (Volume 229 Page 129) owned by Sherry Borgeson, owing \$2,834.30. American Eagle Financial Credit Union, Inc. f/k/a American Eagle Federal Credit Union may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

89 Longwood Drive (Volume 1001 Page 284) owned by Michael R. Chupas and Suzanne M. Banville, owing \$2,771.61. Freedom Mortgage Company d/b/a Freedom Home Mortgage Corporation and Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

Robert Shea or his Estate and Katherine Shea (Volume 105 Page 307) owned by Robert J. Shea or his Estate and Katherine D. Shea, owing \$1,606.99. Webster Bank, N.A. as successor to Burritt Interfinancial Bancorporation; Peter Shea; Sara Casar; Brian Shea; the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; the United States Internal Revenue Service; and the surviving spouse and heirs of Robert Shea may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

11 Three Bridges Road (Volume 453 Page 167) owned by David N. Strong and Patricia A. Strong or their Estates, owing \$12,920.26. Citizens Bank, N.A. as successor to New England Savings Bank; Resource Bancshares Mortgage Group, Inc., Bank of America, N.A. as successor to National Bank of NV Funding LLC; Mora Strong Safarik; Traci M. McCloskey; the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; the United States Internal Revenue Service; and the surviving spouse and heirs of Robert Shea may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

333 Lake Shore Drive and ±0.25 acres on Ridgewood Road Extension (Volume 575 Page 291) owned by Robert F. Victor a/k/a Robert F. Victor, owing \$3,449.60. Valley National Bank and VNB Mortgage Services, Inc. may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

The dollar amounts listed are through the end of last month. Additional taxes, interest, fees, and other charges authorized by law accruing after the last day of the month immediately preceding this notice are owed in addition to the amount indicated as due and owing in this notice.

Bidders must present \$5,000 per property in certified funds payable to "Pulman & Comley, Trustee" on the day of the sale, and the winning bidder must pay the balance of the sale price within 5 days or forfeit that deposit. Absent a redemption, the purchaser will take title "free and clear" six months after the auction except for certain encumbrances. Details at www.cttaxsales.com. 6/6/2022 7224412

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NOTICE OF SANITARY SEWER ASSESSMENT NOW DUE AND PAYABLE

THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

555 Main Street

Hartford, Connecticut

Notice is hereby given that the deferred final assessment for sanitary sewer property formerly owned by ESTATE OF FRANCIS G. SOCHA, GAIL SOCHA AND A&T LLC, now owned by CAROLYN COOPER, C/O 300 Rainbow Ridge, Windsor, CT, also known as lot 31402, is declared due and payable to the Collector of The Metropolitan District at 555 Main Street, Hartford, Connecticut, in accordance with the Charter and Ordinances of The Metropolitan District.

John S. Mirtle, Esq.

District Clerk

June 6, 2022

6/6/2022 7227124

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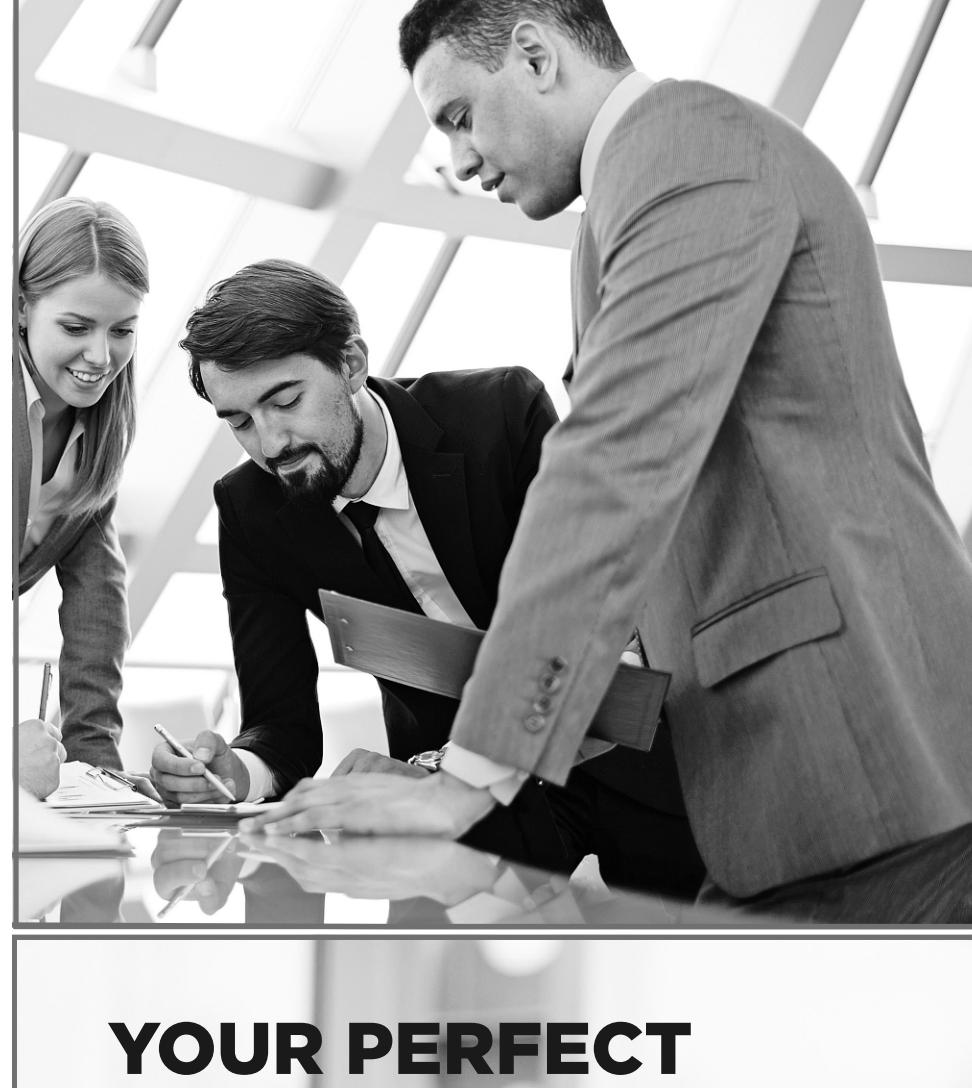
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Employers scrambling for summer staff

Tight labor market
a good one for young
people looking for jobs

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant

A tight labor market is giving young workers plenty of opportunities to find jobs, making it harder for employers to hire for the summer.

The Metropolitan District shut Lake McDonough beach in Barkhamsted for Memo-

rial Day weekend, and it will remain closed until further notice because of a shortage of lifeguards. The lake is generally staffed by 10 or 11 lifeguards and "we don't have anywhere near that," said Nick Salemi, spokesman for the Metropolitan District.

Barring swimmers on the unofficial first weekend of summer — the boat launch will remain open — is disappointing because Lake McDonough was closed the last two years due to the pandemic. The lake requires lifeguards and

does not have a "swim at your own risk" policy.

The state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection also is looking to hire lifeguards at state beaches, but is finding fewer applicants than in the past, spokesman Will Healey said. DEEP is reaching into high schools, community colleges and colleges, participating in career fairs and advertising on the state jobs website, online jobs websites and social media channels.

Turn to Jobs, Page 2



The state DEEP boosted lifeguards' starting pay to \$19 an hour, up from \$16, and ranging up to \$21 per hour.

COURANT FILE PHOTO



Bryan Hickey, owner of Hopmeadow Brewing Company, stands at the counter in the tap room with his daughter, Livi, 17, the cashier.

CLOE POISSON PHOTOS/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

At Hopmeadow, it's a family affair

Simsbury dad, mom and
kids run Avon brewery

By Pam McLoughlin
Hartford Courant

AVON — At Hopmeadow Brewing Company, there's love and family on tap along with the IPAs, stouts and lagers.

Bryan Hickey is the brewmaster, son Gabriel, 24, is an assistant brewer, daughter Olivia, 17, is the cashier and Christy, his wife of 26 years, is the artist, sign-maker and runs the tap room.

"I was pretty happy because getting good staff is hard," he said of being able to run the business with his immediate family.

Christy Hickey said, "It's been really fun because, luckily, we all get along with each other... We've always been a tight family group."

Turn to Hopmeadow, Page 2



Guests enjoy beer on the patio Saturday at the family-owned Hopmeadow Brewing Company in Avon.

Bringing hidden legacies to life

Local director, actor, historian is shining spotlight on women

By Deidre Montague
Hartford Courant

WETHERSFIELD — Local performing artist, storyteller, actor and playwright Tammy Denease is known for bringing important and hidden Black women in history to life through her one-woman plays throughout the state. She took another big step forward with her directorial debut in "Living History: Elizabeth Keckly — Freedom Tailored by Hand."

Denease's play, performed Thursday at the Webb Barn at The Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum in Wethersfield, gave the audience a glimpse into Keckly's life, as she endured enslavement, physical abuse, separation from her family, the loss of her son and a difficult marriage. She eventually bought her own freedom, as she worked her way into becoming a close friend, confidant and the premiere dressmaker and seamstress for President Abraham Lincoln's wife, Mary Ann Todd Lincoln.

The cast included Abria Smith as adult Elizabeth, Candis Hilton as the younger Elizabeth, Nizae Aaliyah as the 13th Amendment reader, Andre Keitt and Kelvin Todd, who played the voices of the white slave owners, news reporters and President Lincoln, and Denease as the voices of Mary Todd Lincoln and an enslaved woman.

After the play, Denease talked about what made her bring Keckly's story to the stage.

"When I pick out my characters, I wanted to do women that you had not heard a lot about," Denease said.

"Coming from Mississippi, I knew my heritage and I knew my history... I wanted to talk more about the ones that I knew about and I felt everyone else should know about when I moved here."

Turn to Theater, Page 2

Decades-old essays will be returned to students

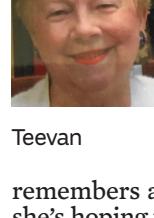
Late beloved Bristol teacher planned to give them back 'one day'

By Pam McLoughlin
Hartford Courant

Some 1,000 students of late Bristol high school teacher Loretta Teevan who may have been waiting up to 43 years to have essays about themselves returned will finally get their chance.

That will be possible June 11 at the Bristol Historical Society where a tribute will be held for Teevan, described as one who urged students to "believe in themselves" and "shape the world the way you want it to be."

Many aren't quite sure what the exact assignment was that the popular Teevan gave all her classes, but former student Marcia Chapman Eveland remembers it amounting to, "Tell me what you



want to be when you grow up."

As a sophomore in about 1964, Eveland wrote that she was going to marry Beatle Paul McCartney. That never happened, and it's all she remembers about the paper, but she's hoping to have a friend pick up the essay to find out what other directions she predicted life would take.

The beloved teacher always promised to return the essays, but for many it never came to be.

Although she saw Teevan socially for years as an adult, every time Eveland, a retired minister, asked about the essay, the teacher put her off with lines such as, "I'm getting to them," and "One day I'm going to mail them."

Turn to Essays, Page 2

State mulls doula certification, ways 'to have healthier babies'

Panel will seek input on training, standards from those in the field

By Jenna Carlesso
CT Mirror

The state is taking another step toward a certification program for doulas, a process that would let those workers seek Medicaid reimbursement for their services and reach more people.

Doulas offer physical and emotional support throughout pregnancy, birth and the post-partum period. They also act as advocates for parents during and after pregnancy and help facilitate communication between their clients and hospital staff.

To ensure equity and fair standards in the certification process, Connecticut's Public Health Department will soon appoint an 18-member panel to provide

input, including recommendations for training, experience and continued education, as well as standards for recognizing training that is sufficient to meet the certification mandates. Seven of the group's members will be doulas, and the panel also will include a representative from a community-based doula training organization, a representative of an acute care hospital and a person with expertise in health equity, among others.

The committee will also review and provide a list of approved training programs in the state that meet certification requirements. Another bill must be passed for the health department to begin regulating doulas. That could happen as early as the state's next legislative session.

Health care advocates say expanding access to doulas is important, especially for parents of color, who have higher infant

mortality rates than white parents. Babies born to Black parents in Connecticut are more than four times as likely to die before their first birthday as babies born to white parents, according to a 2020 study by the Connecticut Health Foundation. There are also substantial gaps in the rate of low birthweight babies — those born under 5 1/2 pounds. Babies born to Black parents are nearly twice as likely to be born at a low birth weight as babies born to white parents, the study found.

Among babies born to Hispanic parents, the mortality rate was 3.7 per 1,000 births, while for white parents, it was 2.9 per 1,000.

Nationally, Black parents are three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related conditions than white parents, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Turn to Doulas, Page 2

Jobs

from Page 1

The agency boosted lifeguards' starting pay to \$19 an hour, up from \$16, and ranging up to \$21 per hour.

Lynsey Winters, marketing director at Lake Compounce, said hiring began in November with efforts to recruit current employees for the summer. Jobs were posted in January and February and three job fairs were held in March and April to fully staff the more than 1,100 jobs, she said.

Tyler Damming, a landscaper at Lake Compounce, said he's gotten "little bumps" in pay and feels "kind of valued here."

"It's pretty easy to stay here," he said.

Patrick Flaherty, director of research at the Connecticut Department of Labor, said youths are more likely to work in restaurants

and retail, which were hit the hardest during pandemic-induced shutdowns ordered by the state. Older workers, leery of COVID-19 health risks or considering other reasons, are "not taking jobs at the pace they've had," he said, clearing the field for younger workers.

"This is a good market for youth," Flaherty said, adding that the labor market is strong for workers of all ages. "Businesses throughout the economy are scrambling to find workers."

During the week ending May 14, 10,170 jobs were posted, a decline of 2,668 new job ads or 21% over the week. The statewide decline is comparable to a 20% nationwide decline, according to the Department of Labor.

Brian T. Kench, dean of the Pompea College of Business at the University of New Haven, said teen workers are benefiting from a higher minimum wage and "markets are in their favor." Connecticut legislation enacted

in 2019 and pushed strongly by labor unions and their legislative allies called for increases over five years. It's currently \$13 an hour, will rise to \$14 July 1 and reach \$15 by June 1, 2023, a nearly 50% increase from where it stood three years ago.

"That's what's going to get them off the couch and into the workforce," Kench said.

Teens are taking jobs at supermarkets, restaurants and resorts that are begging for workers, he said.

Workers under the age of 20 comprised the smallest age group submitting unemployment insurance claims, according to the state Department of Labor. Processed claims for the week of April 16, the most recent week reporting complete data, numbered 125 for workers in that age group.

In contrast, 3,426 workers in their 20s had continuing unemployment compensation claims and 5,113 workers in their 30s submit-

ted claims. The numbers were comparable for workers in their 40s, 50s and 60s.

More than 116,000 employees between the ages of 14 and 21 represented 8% of Connecticut's workforce last year, according to the U.S. Census.

Jalil Shabazz, youth program manager at the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, said jobs are available across the board in retail, manufacturing, government, social service agencies and the trades such as carpentry. "Our business partners have stepped up with jobs," he said.

NRWIB, which provides resources for job seekers and employers, has made a better effort to reach out to communities to enlist employers and get the word out to job seekers of opportunities, he said.

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.

Hopmeadow

from Page 1

The family lives in Simsbury.

In addition to raving about the beer, customers say the family feel of the business adds to the warm vibe in the brewery that opened in June 2020 during the height of the pandemic, right after establishments were allowed to reopen.

"Hopmeadow Brewery is a laid-back, friendly place where Bryan, Christy, Gabe and Olivia greet you with a welcoming smile, a big hello and great beer," said regular customer Donna Lisevick. "I love the various IPA's. Point of Interest is hands down my favorite IPA, however a pint of O'Hickey's always steals the show. Dark, smooth, never bitter and a strong solid finish."

Last week the business brewed its 100th batch of beer.

A longtime executive chef before turning his beer-making hobby into a career, Bryan Hickey said, "I couldn't be happier."

John and Sherilyn Flanders have become regulars, enjoying trivia night on Thursdays and musicians on weekends.

"We enjoy that Hopmeadow is a true family-owned and operated business," John Flanders said. "They are welcoming to their guests and show great pride in what they have all built together. Christy has warmed the walls

with her unique artwork and engages people with her witty sense of humor. Bryan's passion for brewing high quality beer is evident in every offering."

Bill Latz, who describes himself as a "beer snob," said Hopmeadow Brewing Company isn't "sterile-feeling" like some bigger breweries.

"It's a very relaxed, friendly atmosphere. It kind of reminds me of that old TV show Cheers – people know who you are," Latz said. "The beer is really the highest quality. His beer is second to none."

Bryan Hickey, 49, first took a crack at brewing in his early 20s and produced some great batches, but then there wasn't enough time as his chef career took off and the couple, high school sweethearts, were building their family. They also have a daughter, Izzabella, 26, who does not work at the brewery.

He picked the brewing hobby up again 18 years later in 2014, and found it was "a different ballgame" in terms of availability of ingredients.

"I was making really good beer and brewing every single weekend," he said. "That led to opening a brewery. It was the next logical step."

Brewing beer, he said, is an extension of culinary arts.

"I just love making delicious things," he said. "(Brewing's) not a job for me. It's a passion."

Hickey had a business plan in 2017, but didn't find the right location for three years.

He originally wanted to open in Simsbury, where the family lives, but they needed a spot with city water and sewers.

They found the perfect location at 205 Old Farms Road in an old industrial building undergoing renovation and with room for expansion that could someday include canning and an eatery. Currently, various food trucks visit the brewery.

The brewery has high ceilings, big windows, five stainless steel tanks, and is decorated with lots of Christy's artwork, including a mural with images of vines and hops.

The tap room and brewery area is about 2,000 square feet with additional patio space outside. There are 12-15 beer types on tap at a time.

It's such a small brew house, Bryan Hickey said, that Hopmeadow Brewing Company is almost like home brewing on a larger scale.

Sometimes they even mush the grains by hand and Bryan likens that to cooking with love.

"It helps you put a personal touch in the beer you're making," he said.

His "employees" are happy too.

"Working with my family has been really fun. It's definitely brought us all a lot closer," Olivia Hickey said. "I've met a lot of really nice, interesting people working there and it is helping me develop a career path."

Gabriel Hickey calls the brewery his "home away from home."

"Between brewing the beer with my father,

learning to love every step of the process, pouring into nice glassware and finally watching the eager eyes of our customers close as they take that first frothy sip, my only wish is to be able to accommodate more," Gabriel said. "Some of the pleasures of this life that I have learned from my parents are accumulating at this brewery and I am honored to be the apprentice of it all... Hopmeadow has helped me discover new parts of myself as well as the world around me."

Hickey said he chose the name Hopmeadow because it's the name of a main street in Simsbury that the family travels to get to the business and is said to have a tie-in with hops, a flower that is key to beer-making, giving it aroma, flavor and keeping freshness.

As the story goes, Bryan Hickey said, the street got its name because hops – an image on the Simsbury town seal – were once grown there. But he said local historians can't verify that because early records were lost in a fire long ago.

"When I was pondering a name it just seemed natural that fit," he said.

Family and friends renovated the space for the brewery as well.

"We made the place and it came out nice," he said. "We put a lot of blood and sweat in the place."

Find more information at hopmeadowbrewingcompany.com or facebook.com/hopmeadowbrewingcompany.

Theater

from Page 1

After moving to the Northeast, Denease asked her sixth-grade teacher when they were going to talk about other Black leaders, such as Medgar Evers, Marion Anderson and others, since they were covering only Martin Luther King Jr., Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman.

"She told me I had to go to the library, and that did not bother me because I was a bookworm. I felt really sad for all of the other students who were not into reading the way I was, and it was unacceptable to me. It was at that moment in the sixth grade that I [decided] I would be doing this and just didn't know it till I got older."

Some of the women Denease has played include Bessie Coleman, the first internationally licensed pilot in the world, Amistad captive Margu, and Elizabeth "MumBet" Freeman, the first enslaved African American to file and win a freedom suit in Massachusetts. Denease said she chooses Black women's stories that reflect women within her own family, such as her great-grandmother and grandmother, whose lessons started her on the road to being a historian and researcher.

"Elizabeth Keckly sort of resembles my great-grandmother's story. She got out of enslavement. She became very well-known in Mississippi [and] was very well-known

as a businesswoman. So upon her death, she had the 40 acres, she had six houses ... she had a lot of stuff when she passed away ... more than most of the white people who were her neighbors at the time. I want to tell the stories of resilience and not just the stories that are seen through one lens that enslaved people were docile, had no ambition and were [not] resilient. That was not the case. That's why I tell the stories that I tell."

Denease believes it is that resiliency that makes the Black community who it is today.

"So many people [ask], 'Why are you always talking about slavery?' It's not so much slavery that I'm talking about. I'm talking about the resilient spirit of our ancestors, who were put into a situation they had no control over. But they made the best of it, and because of them, we are," she said.

"I say to people all the time, 'You're very passionate about marching and protesting, but it never lasts.' You know why? You are doing it off of emotion and not knowledge. That's the difference. Once you know why things are happening, you have a better understanding of how to go about it. That's why it's so important to tell these stories and not look at it as always the past."

For more information about Tammy Denease and her Hidden Women Stage Company, you can contact her at 1-516-699-8997 or info@hiddenwomen.org.

be an advocate in the room for them."

Four states covered doula services as of July 2021 — Oregon, New Jersey, Indiana and Minnesota, a Kaiser Family Foundation study found — and at least 11 more were considering adding coverage for doulas, including four that reported planning to start by the end of this year. Most doula services are currently covered by private pay.

"This is a really important step for the state in building access, not just for the doula community, but also for more people who

Essays

from Page 1

After Teevan died in January, her close friend, Eleanor Wilson, chairwoman of programs at Bristol Historical Society, asked her family for the essays and they gladly obliged.

Wilson knew about the unreturned essays because Teevan often spoke about making arrangements to return them to students, but it never happened. Many of the essays were returned to students over the years at class reunions, but when Teevan died, there were about 1,000 remaining in her possession, said Wilson, who has since put each one in an envelope and alphabetized them by last name for easy searching.

The pickup will be available June 11 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. during a tribute at Bristol Historical Society for Wilson's friend of 65 years. The tribute will include sharing stories and memories of Teevan, and a few personal pictures and items belonging to her will be on display. As part of CT Open House Day June 11, the military museum and Bristol Sports Hall of Fame also will be open.

"I'm trying to fulfill that promise she made by returning as many papers as I can," Wilson said. "There seems to be interest, but I don't know how many will show."

Teevan never married or had children. She used to say "all her students were her children," Wilson said.

"She had a great sense of humor. She was a great mentor; a great educator and certainly a

very very good friend," Wilson said of Teevan.

Wilson said she didn't read any of the essays because, "they're very personal." Essay writers weren't notified individually, but rather they are relying on social media and other publicity around the event.

There are no consistent stories about the essay directions, but Wilson said the essays are titled with "I meet me in retrospect" or "I meet me."

Eveland quipped that everyone is too old to remember the exact essay instruction.

Teevan was a high school teacher in Bristol for 43 years, most of it at Bristol Central High School and taught various subjects through the years, including Latin, English, French and mythology. Former student Sue Simoneau, a retired Hartford Courant editor who graduated more than 50 years ago, said "part of the fun" will be to see who shows up. Simoneau said she saw Teevan so many times through the years — at church, the grocery store — but "she'd never, ever offer it (the essay)," even though Simoneau would ask, "Where's my composition?"

"I'm looking forward to it," she said. "It will be a laugh to see what my 16-year-old self wanted to be."

Simoneau said it was a "different world" in the mid 1960s, and women weren't seen as having many options beyond teacher or secretary, neither of which she wanted to be.

"Loretta gave us that little bump: Believe in yourself. You can make it in this world," Simoneau said. "You go forward and shape the world the way you want it to be. She was just exactly what we needed."

Doulas

from Page 1

"We know that outcomes are better when women of color have an advocate by their side, which is often a doula, during the maternal process," said Tiffany Donelson, president and CEO of the Connecticut Health Foundation. "It's so important for women to have someone they can trust and someone who can be there to help them navigate through the process, to

are looking for doula services," said Maura Jo Lynch, an independent doula in Connecticut who has worked in the field for 16 years.

"A doula is a bit of a luxury item, which it should not be," added Ashley Minihan, who has been a doula in Connecticut for seven years. "Everybody should be able to access that support."

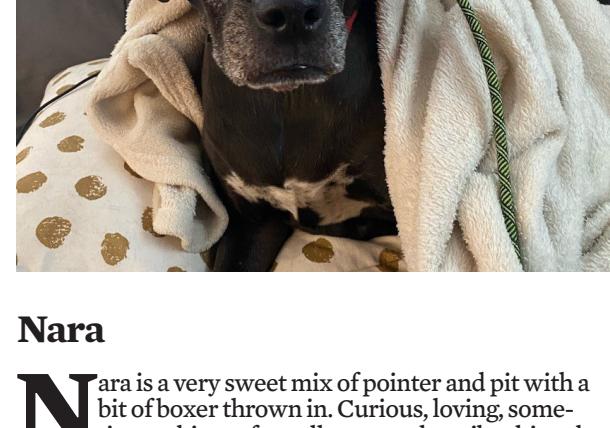
As the state edges closer toward certification, doulas are calling for reasonable hours of training and fair costs in obtaining the designation. And for experienced doulas, hours of

work in the field should count in the process, several said.

Certification "needs to be designed for the success of the applicants," Lynch said. "That means it needs to be financially accessible, it means that the hours need to be reasonable, and it means that the core competencies need to be ones that are commonly held across the doula community."

Jenna Carlesso is a reporter for The Connecticut Mirror (<https://ctmirror.org/>).

PETS UP FOR ADOPTION



Lazarus

Milo

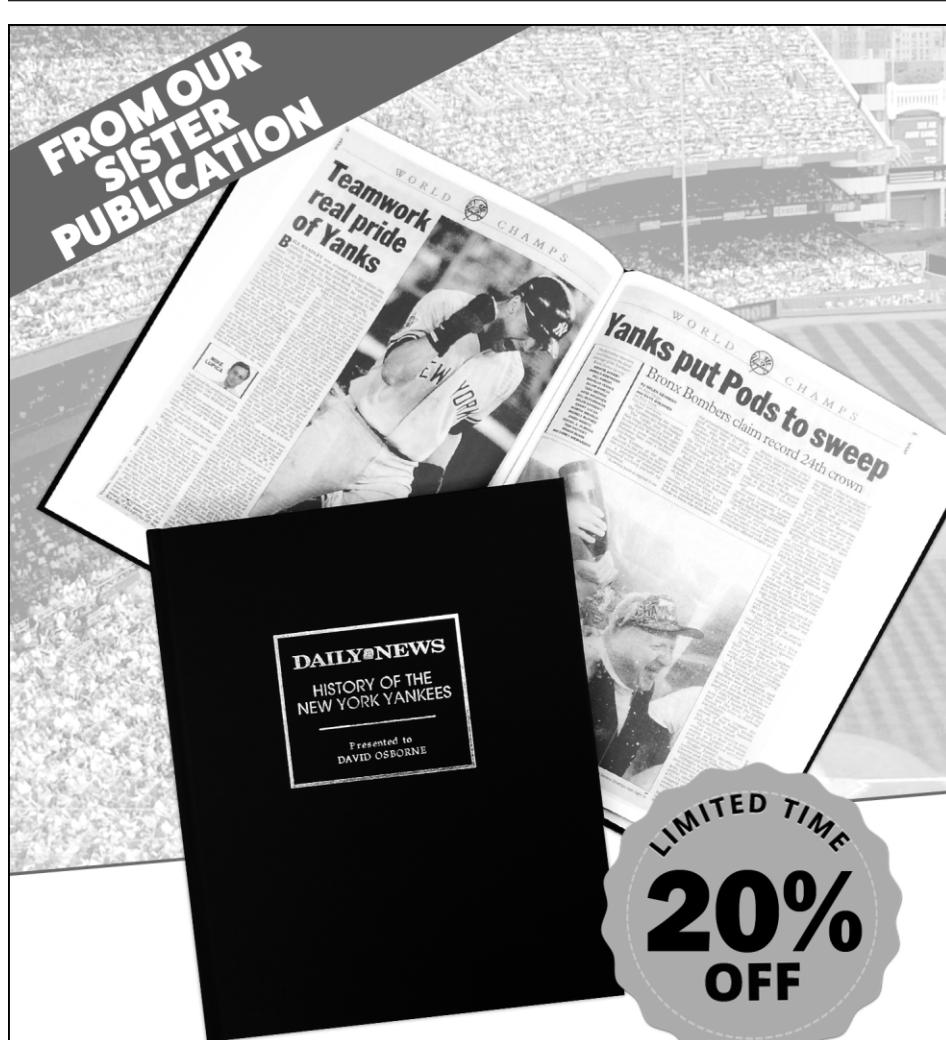
Milo is a handsome 6-year-old kitty who loves his belly rubbed and lots of petting. Milo will do well in a home with a screened porch (or "catio") where he can spend his days safely enclosed but with fresh air. He would do well in a home with another friendly cat, too. While Milo is FIV+, he is healthy and simply requires annual vet appointments. However, he doesn't like being picked up and put in a carrier. Options may be to have a vet-doc visit the home or gently coerce him into the carrier in stress-free ways. Milo has a lot of personality that would bring joy to a special home. No dogs. If interested in adopting Milo, go to CatTalesCT.org/cats/Milo-2 or call 860-344-6043 or email info@CatTalesCT.org.

Nara

Nara is a very sweet mix of pointer and pit with a bit of boxer thrown in. Curious, loving, sometimes a bit goofy — all ways to describe this gal. At 6 years old, Nara is a great mix of active and quiet. We'd prefer a single family teen or adult home where she is the only animal. Nara is crated when alone in the home, free to roam when her people are home. She is 52 pounds. To learn more, please contact Our Companions at 860-242-9999 or email Helpline@OurCompanions.org.

For more information or to submit a pet for adoption, please email pets@courant.com.

Please include a photo, a description of the pet including age and personality, and contact information including an email address and a phone number.



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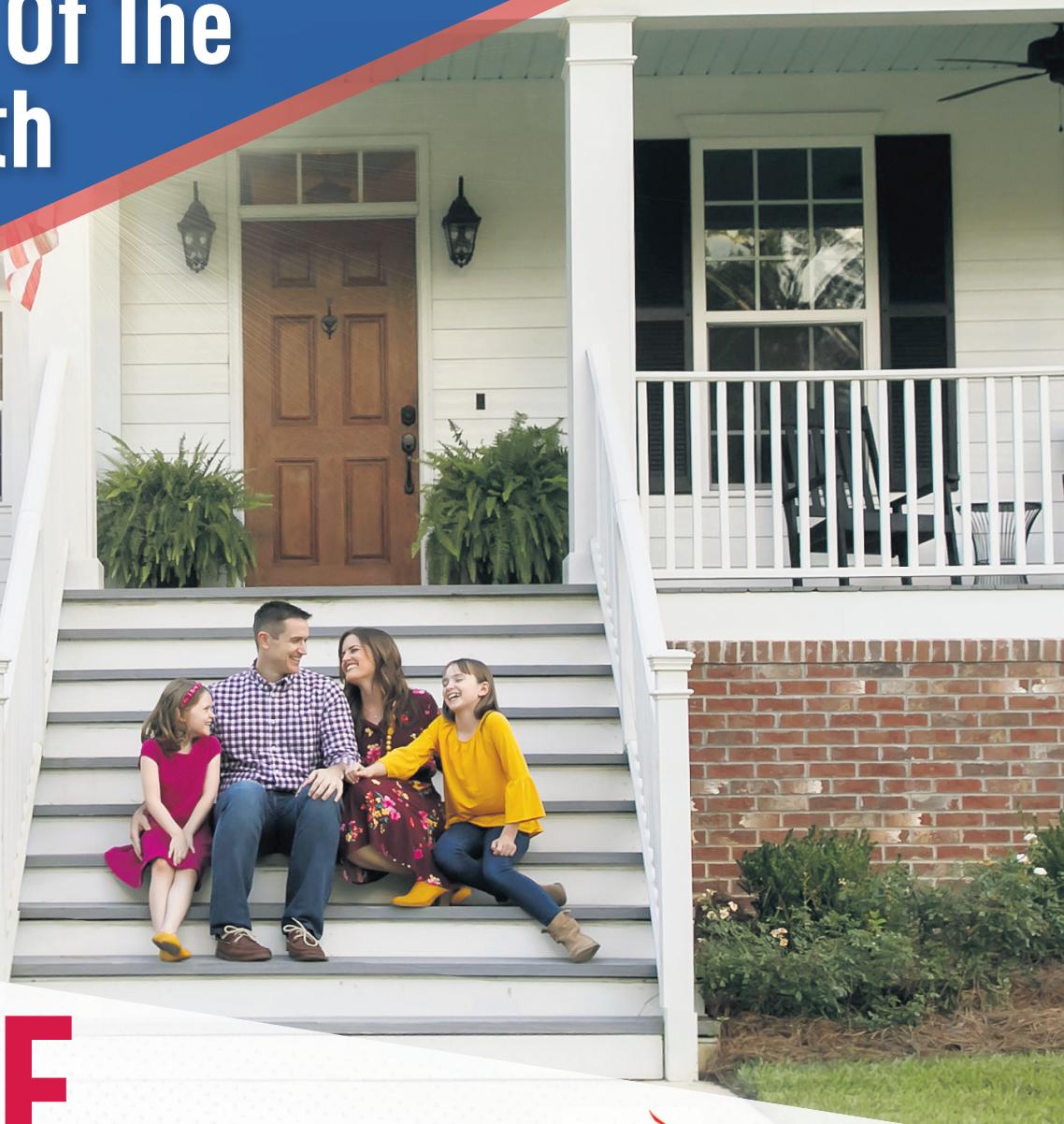


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NOW PLAYING

Reviews of movies showing in theaters or streaming online

'BENEDICTION': In Terence Davies' "Benediction," a moving portrait of English war poet Siegfried Sassoon, the blessing bestowed is both literal and cinematic. While older Siegfried (Peter Capaldi) receives a blessing from a priest while converting to Catholicism, much to the chagrin of his adult son, George (Richard Goulding), the true benediction of "Benediction" is much more than just the on-screen ritual. The blessing of the film is the film itself, and the extraordinary grace that Davies extends toward his subject, a poet who made his pain public but had to keep his intimate life private. 2:17. 3 1/2 stars. —Katie Walsh, Tribune News Services

'THE BOB'S BURGERS MOVIE': The long-running, award-winning Fox animated series "Bob's Burgers," created by Loren Bouchard, is an unassuming Hollywood success story. The arrival of a movie version, "The Bob's Burgers Movie," on big screens seems like just the icing on the cake, but the film is also a refreshing contrast to the kind of big screen spectacle that usually crowds theaters in the summer. The antics are wacky, the jokes are dense, and "The Bob's Burgers Movie" is both nail-bitingly tense and genuinely moving. It's a story that demonstrates how family unity is a powerful force, and that small businesses are tantamount to preserving the fabric of a community. But most importantly, it's hilarious, and it's likely to make you crave a burger too. 1:42. 3 stars. —Katie Walsh

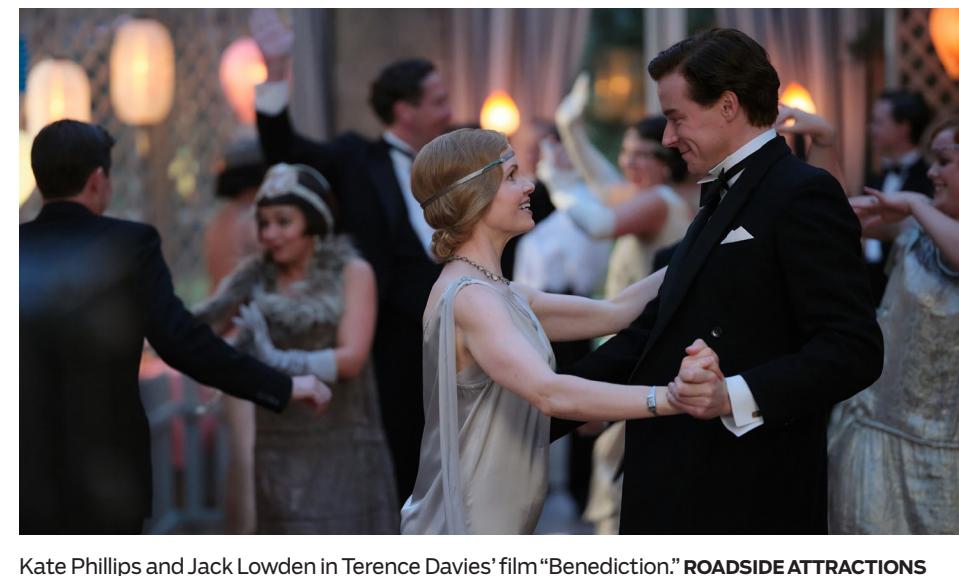
'DOWNTON ABBEY: A NEW ERA': The new "Down-

ton Abbey" film proclaims that it's "A New Era," but in actuality, it's a real throwback. It's not just that "Downton Abbey: A New Era" is a shiny replication of a world that's nearly a century old, but it's also a reminder of the world that we lived in when we loved "Downton Abbey," those heady days of the 2010s when we gulped down seasons of the wildly popular, award-winning historical TV drama created by Julian Fellowes. Watching it feels like double escapism: to early 20th-century England, as well as to a pre-pandemic time. "Downton Abbey: A New Era" is a chaotic, mannered soap opera that feels like a relic of another time in more ways than one, but perhaps, that's the entire appeal. 2:05. 2 1/2 stars. —Katie Walsh

'FIRE ISLAND': It's important for there to be bad queer rom-coms, because there are plenty of bad straight rom-coms. Every one does not have to be "Portrait of a Lady on Fire" or "Call Me By Your Name." In this sense, "Fire Island," a new movie written by comedian Joel Kim Booster and starring Booster and "Saturday Night Live's" Bowen Yang, is important. Based on a script originally written for the doomed TV streaming app Quibi, and a plot that feels more like a gimmick than a passion project, "Fire Island" is a mess with a few bright spots and some mildly funny jokes. It's noteworthy that this is a movie with four Asian American leads, which is also important representation. In the spirit of "Pride and Prejudice," written as a critique of

marriage and class in Georgian England, it has thoughtful moments criticizing modern queer culture, its prejudices and its obsession with body image. But in the end, it's unclear what the movie gained by conforming itself after a straight, white, English story. It's a self-conscious movie that rarely goes deep, despite a few heartwarming moments. And again, that's OK — there are plenty of surface-level straight romances! Streaming on Hulu. 1:45. 2 stars. —Scott Greenstone, *The Seattle Times*

'MEN': "Visionary" is liberally used to describe directors these days, but if any filmmaker has earned the title, it's writer/director Alex Garland, whose work has pushed forward some of the major trends in horror and sci-fi filmmaking over the past two decades. He penned the screenplays for "28 Days Later" and "Sunshine," and directed the coolly intelligent "Ex Machina," as well as the feverishly hallucinatory "Annihilation." Garland uses genre to explore the nature of human existence, and the ways in which human beings struggle to connect across planes of being, both organic and mechanistic. In his latest film, "Men," Garland turns toward the domestic, finding the horror within the confines of the home, and ripping it out from within. With "Men," Garland remains rooted in the natural world, but in this folk horror riff, the events that unfold are so entirely unnatural that some images and concepts are impossible to unsee or forget. Garland challenges the natural



Kate Phillips and Jack Lowden in Terence Davies' film "Benediction." **ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS**

order in order to examine the many monstrous forms that emotional abuse and trauma can take on a human being's psyche, and he does so in a Grand Guignol of grotesquerie. Yet after all that blood and gore, too much remains mysterious about "Men," as Garland poses big questions that remain unanswered. 1:40. 3 stars. —Katie Walsh

'OPERATION MINCEMEAT': With any war movie, the safe audience bet typically favors the immediate, graphic horrors of battle. Espionage makes for subtler, trickier storytelling. "Operation Mincemeat" takes as its subject a singular feat of deception cooked up by British intelligence in 1943. How decisively the operation turned the Allied tide against Nazi Germany is up for historical debate. But the men and women of MI5 assuredly helped make the invasion of Sicily a key Allied military success. Streaming on Netflix. 2:08. 3 stars. —Michael Phillips, *Chicago Tribune*

'TOP GUN: MAVERICK': It couldn't outmaneuver the pandemic enemy that delayed its release for two years, but "Top Gun: Maverick" can't lose, really.

It's a pretty good time, and often a pretty good movie. It's cozy. And it'll be catnip for those eager to watch Tom Cruise flash That Look. What is That Look? It's the half-smile of insubordination when a superior officer (Ed Harris or Jon Hamm this time) busts test pilot and congenital neanderthal Capt. Pete "Maverick" Mitchell's chops, ineffectively. It's The Look that goes with an eternally boyish voice and demeanor. Capt. Mitchell, who lives alone in the desert with his beloved Kawasaki motorcycle, is called to a new and time-sensitive duty by his old cohort Iceman (Val Kilmer), now a U.S. Pacific Fleet commander. Maverick has three weeks to train a group of new Top Gun aces to destroy a uranium enrichment plant in an unspecified but assuredly Slavic location. One of the trainees is Bradley "Rooster" Bradshaw (Miles Teller), the grudge-laden son of Maverick's late radar intercept officer, Goose, played by Anthony Edwards back when. It's silly-rousing enough to satisfy younger and older audiences alike. It may help to have hated the original, but I liked this one, even though it's not so very different from the first. 3 stars. —Katie Walsh

from now, we'll probably be watching Cruise teaching a new cadre of flying aces. Only the planet will have changed. 2:17. 3 stars. — Michael Phillips

'WATCHER': In Chloe Okuno's stylish debut "Watcher," the title refers not just to one person, but two, when the watched becomes the watcher, the stalker and stalked swapping places throughout the course of this chilly psychological thriller. Working in the vein of '70s-style horror, Okuno's "Watcher" is in dialogue with films like Roman Polanski's "Repulsion" and "Rosemary's Baby," nods to Andrzej Zulawski's "Possession" with its foreboding European setting, and features a Hitchcock blonde in Julia (Maika Monroe). But those films about vulnerable women caught in voyeuristic traps were all directed by men, and with Okuno, a female writer/director, telling the story, it's a very different result, one that's emotionally and ethically complex, but undeniable in its bold clarity. 1:35. 3 stars. —Katie Walsh

RATINGS: The movies listed are rated according to the following key: 4 stars, excellent; 3 stars, good; 2 stars, fair; 1 star, poor.

CELEBRITIES

Morrison refutes departure claim

From news services

"Glee" alum Matthew Morrison is repudiating a salacious claim about his abrupt departure from the Fox competition "So You Think You Can Dance." After only a two-month stint, the married actor-singer recently announced his exit from his role as a judge on the series. Then he took to Instagram on Thursday to shut down a report alleging that he had an inappropriate relationship with a contestant that led to his departure.

"It's really unfortunate that I have to sit here and defend myself and my family against blatantly untrue statements made anonymously, but I have nothing to hide," the 43-year-old said Thursday in a video message.

"In the interest of transparency," he also read the "one" message he sent to the dancer that he suggested was at the core of the scandal. (TMZ reported that it had verified the message.)

"Hey, it's Matthew. If you don't mind, would love to get your number and talk you through some things," Morrison recited, appearing to read the missive off his phone screen.

"The end. I sent this because this dancer and I both share a mutual respect for a choreographer that I've known for over 20 years, and I was trying to help her get a job as a choreographer on the show," he said.

When announcing his exit on May 27 — less than two weeks after he debuted on the show on May 18 — Morrison said he "did not follow production protocols" and that prevented him from "being able to judge the competition fairly."

People reported Tuesday that Morrison was fired from the series "after he had an inappropriate



Matthew Morrison departed as a judge on "So You Think You Can Dance" after two months. **ARTURO HOLMES/GETTY 2020**

relationship with a female contestant." But the magazine attributed the remarks to an unnamed source.

Representatives for Fox declined to comment Friday.

"So You Think You Can Dance" episodes including Morrison are expected to air through mid-June, Entertainment Weekly reported, and a new personality is expected to join JoJo Siwa and Stephen "Witch" Boss on the judge's panel.

Morrison, Siwa and "Witch" replaced judges Nigel Lythgoe and Mary Murphy after the dance competition returned from its two-year hiatus due to the pandemic.

White home in LA sold: Betty White's home in Los Angeles sold for \$10.6 million, about \$100,000 over asking price.

The house was listed in April, four months after

White's death, and sold to an anonymous buyer, the Wall Street Journal reported. The exact sale price was \$10,678,000.

Sotheby's Realty listed the home in Brentwood Park for \$10,575,000. It has about 3,000 square feet, five bedrooms and six full bathrooms.

White and her third husband, Allen Ludden, moved into the home in 1968. They also had a property by the beach in Carmel, California, which sold for \$10.7 million in April. Ludden died in 1981.

June 6 birthdays: Singer Gary U.S. Bonds is 83. Actor Robert Englund is 75. Actor Harvey Fierstein is 70. Musician Jimmy Jam is 63. Comedian Colin Quinn is 63. Actor Jason Isaacs is 59. Actor Paul Giamatti is 55. Guitarist James "Munky" Shaffer is 52. Actor Sonya Walger is 48. Actor Aubrey Anderson-Emmons is 15.

The house was listed in April, four months after

the pandemic.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Questions hang over 'friends with benefits'

Dear Amy: I'm a 48-year-old woman. I've been told I look about 35 to 37.

A while back, I met a man on a dating website who is 37.

We both weren't looking for anything serious. We live near one another.

We had a nice dinner, got along great, and he gave me a long hug when we parted.

However, once I revealed my age, he told me he is not into dating older women. Since then, we hang out twice a week, cuddling on the couch, making out and even ended up having sex.

He is very physically affectionate when we're together. He texts me every morning when he wakes up and texts me throughout the day.

We both go on dates with other people, but we both feel like it never goes anywhere because we don't click with others.

The problem is, he treats me like a girlfriend — but I'm not. Am I just being used?

I'm not mad at him because we both agreed to be "friends with benefits," but I thought it would be with less emotion or physical interaction on his part.

He went through a bad divorce a year ago and is scared to make the same mistake.

I believe that deep down he wants to be with me, but is scared to admit it to me or to himself.

What do you think I should do?

—FWB

Dear FWB: You wonder if this man is using you, but ... are you using him?

Based on your description, couldn't one

interpretation be that you are using him as a boy-toy, while you continue to seek other men? Unless you two are brave enough to talk about things, you'll be left to interpret his internal motivations.

Assigning deep motivations behind behavior is how people fool themselves and relieve their partners of any responsibility to communicate. Some examples: "Deep down he wants to be with me." "He's scared to love me because of his bad breakup."

If you have a question about your relationship, ask him. If you have fallen for him, you should tell him.

If he says, "I don't see older women," then this will tell you either that he can't count, that he is basically lying to himself (because he is seeing you, you are older, and you are a woman), or that he is happy to sleep with you but will never take you home to meet the folks.

Ongoing relationships are the result of spark plus timing. If you have the spark but the timing is off (because of the age difference, or his recent breakup), then there is not much you can do about it.

If you are able to enjoy this "friends with benefits" relationship, exactly as it is, then — keep going. Otherwise, keep moving.

I think it is also important for you to contact the charities sending these to you and ask that they stop. This is expensive and wasteful.

Dear Amy: "Heartbroken Mom" wrote to you about her daughter and the daughter's fiancé. Both of them sounded like dysfunctional "users" who expected financial support from their parents.

Heartbroken reported that her other children were pressuring her to financially support their sister, otherwise she would "lose her."

Thank you for standing up against this kind of blackmail.

If the siblings feel so strongly, perhaps they should financially support their sister.

— Grateful

Dear Grateful: I wish I'd added that idea to my answer. Thank you.

These cards are quite beautiful, and I'd hate to just recycle them.

Can you think of any organization that would

want these cards?

— Carded Out

Dear Carded: Start with your local library. If they sponsor a book sale, they can accept these pristine cards and sell them to support literacy programs in your area. Also check with local assisted living and nursing homes.

Otherwise, St. Jude's Ranch is a national charity that will accept your cards. Check stjudesranch.org and search for "recycled card program" to learn about their program and how to donate.

I think it is also important for you to contact the charities sending these to you and ask that they stop. This is expensive and wasteful.

Dear Amy: "Heartbroken Mom" wrote to you about her daughter and the daughter's fiancé. Both of them sounded like dysfunctional "users" who expected financial support from their parents.

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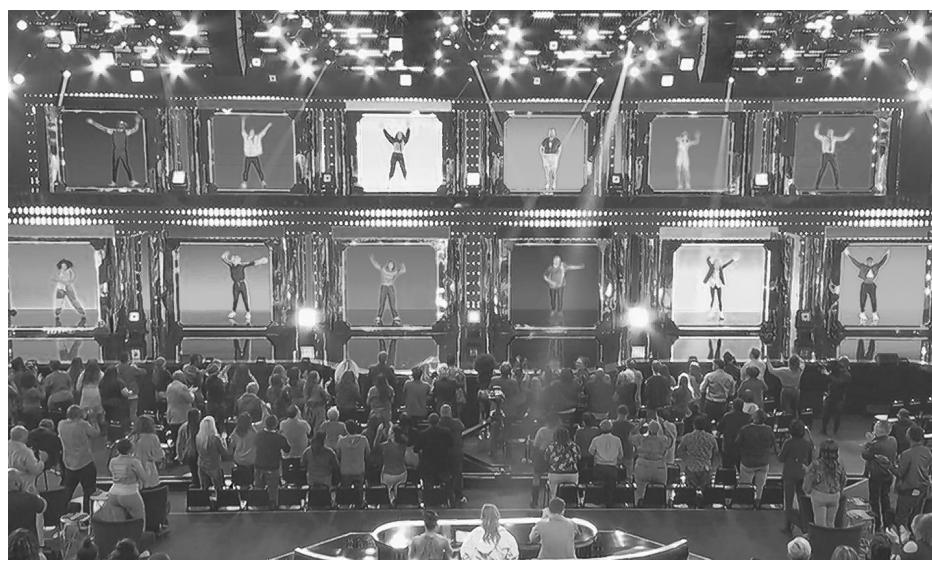
If the siblings feel so strongly, perhaps they should financially support their sister.

— Grateful

Dear Grateful: I wish I'd added that idea to my answer. Thank you.

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Contestants are placed in dance pods on the reality show "Dancing With Myself." NBC

TikTok concept boogies over to TV in 'Dancing With Myself'

By Rodney Ho
Atlanta Journal-Constitution

The core of TikTok is folks doing little choreographed dances: moms and daughters, teenage friends, professionals, random folks in the kitchen.

Shakira, the popular Latin pop star with hits like "Whenever, Whenever" and "Hips Don't Lie," decided to turn that concept into a reality competition show called "Dancing With Myself," which is airing Tuesdays on NBC.

Each episode starts with 12 contestants who have to quickly learn a sequence of choreographed moves from Shakira and others. They are then each placed in their own dance pod and make their moves all at the same time on a huge stage in front of a live audience. The top eight vote-getters from the audience move forward. Then the judges — Shakira, singer Nick Jonas and YouTube star Liza Koshy — do saves.

After multiple rounds, one person is eventually crowned a winner. Each episode stands alone.

The criteria, said host Camille Kostek in an interview, isn't necessarily

accurate aping of the dance steps. Instead, it's how well the dancer can entertain. Large these are not professional dancers but just folks from all walks of life.

"Some people pick up the choreography better than others," said Kostek, who has also hosted "Wipeout" on TBS. "Some forget it and just freestyle and still move on."

Kostek said working with Shakira, 45, who has been in the business for more than 30 years and has a raft of crossover hits, has been a joy. "The fan girl in me came out from the beginning," she said. "I grew up watching her videos. Now folks can get to shake their hips like Shakira."

She said the best moment for her was when Shakira complimented her outfit. "I told the stylist to keep those clothes," she said. "She has such an impactful style. You'll have to check out all her looks on stage throughout the show."

Kostek, a former professional cheerleader classically trained in tap, jazz and hip-hop dance, actually gets to do some choreography and create some

of her own dances.

"Dance is such a beautiful escape," Kostek said, "whether I'm dealing with a break up or dealing with anxiety. That's how it is with a lot of people on the show. It's such a universal language to follow body language. It brings people together."

She plans to share videos of people replicating the dances from the show on social media, which would be a full circle moment since the entire premise of the show came from TikTok.

"I wanted to capture the language of social media, what's going on in social media, and how people like to express themselves right now," Shakira told the Nerds of Color. "The idea of this show came from the pandemic when people were in their living rooms, dancing, and coming up with ideas and choreography."

Dance, she noted, is "one of the oldest rituals of human social life. We had doctors, we had construction workers, people in the military, and dentists, lots of dentists dancing, you would never know. It was a lot of fun. Also kids — kids competing against adults."

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Conversations could feel heavier than usual today, weighing you down and making you think twice. It might not be easy, especially if it catches you off guard. Regardless, if a potentially rough situation appears on the horizon, do your best to lean in and work through it.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Your self-worth is up for inspection today — something you've buried away for a long time could be a major part of the issue. Get in touch with what you need to feel safe and at peace — you might realize it's about more than just material objects.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Your social circle may be a strong influence on your current mindset. If there are cracks in the foundation, you should do your best to try and firm them up — doing so could unleash some powerful transformations. Speak from the heart, and others will probably do the same.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): The solution to a problem can come from completely out of the blue on occasion, and today that's likely where you'll find whatever it is you need. If you're not where you want to be, try tapping in to your subconscious — the answer to your problems could quickly manifest.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Connecting with the world around you is highly encouraged by the cosmos today, getting you in touch with all the people in your life. People do things differently than you — and that isn't a bad thing. Opening your mind to new ways of approaching life could help you unlearn some old habits which no longer aid you.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The cost of even the most enticing prize might not be worth the effort to you right now. You might be asking yourself whether or not your efforts are really meaningful. If you aren't happy with the results, then perhaps it's time to shake things up.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A little bit of fresh air could do wonders for you, especially if you aren't taking it in on your own. Today the Sun will sextile Chiron in your partnership sector, which is helpful for healing old bonds that might have been damaged. Try reconnecting with people and turn over a fresh leaf.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A major issue could be handled more simply than you might realize, if you're willing to play it by the book. The perfect approach might not be as exciting as you would prefer. Make an effort to do things step by step. The finish line should appear sooner than you expect.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20):

A family member could lead you to an improved understanding of your own needs today. You're focused on your immediate surroundings. If you're feeling out of sorts, consider asking someone for advice. They could have wise words to help you put matters in perspective.

TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1939, the first Little League baseball game was played in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

In 1944, during World War II, Allied forces stormed the beaches of Normandy, France, on "D-Day."

In 1982, Israeli forces invaded Lebanon to drive Palestine Liberation Organization fighters out of the country.

In 1989, burial services were held for Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

In 2001, Democrats formally assumed control of the U.S. Senate after the election of Vermont Republican James Jeffords to become an independent.

In 2006, soul musician Billy Preston died in Scottsdale, Arizona, at age 59.

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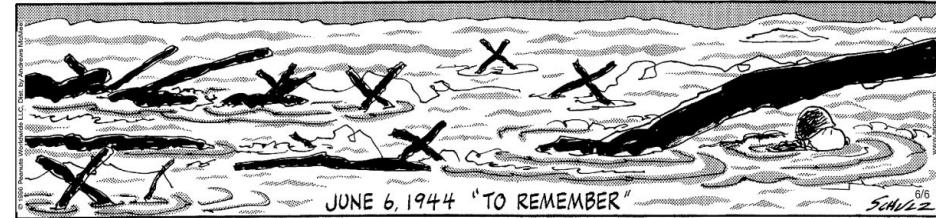
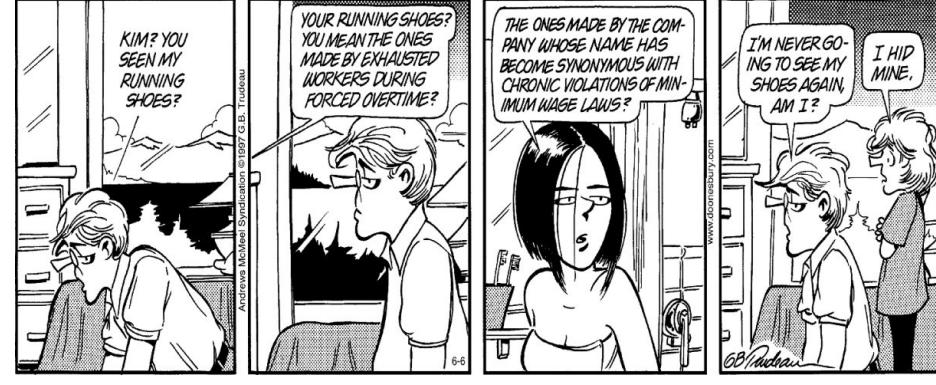
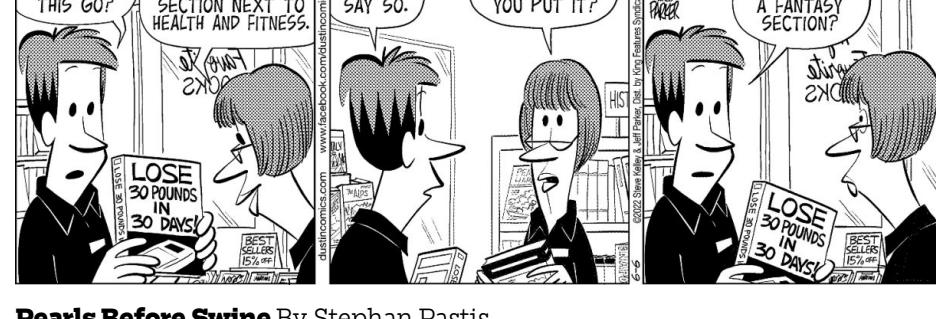
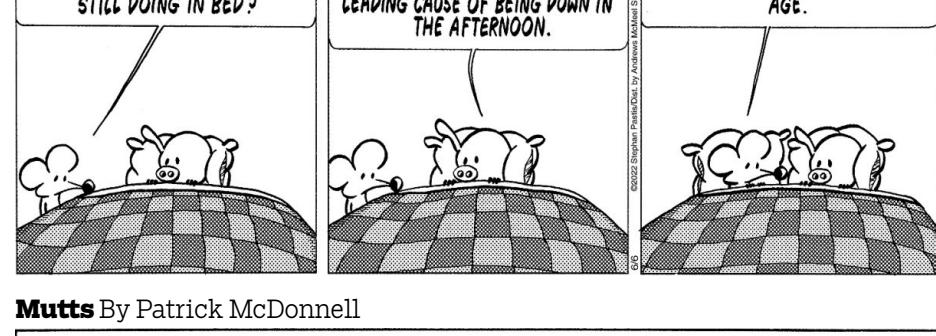
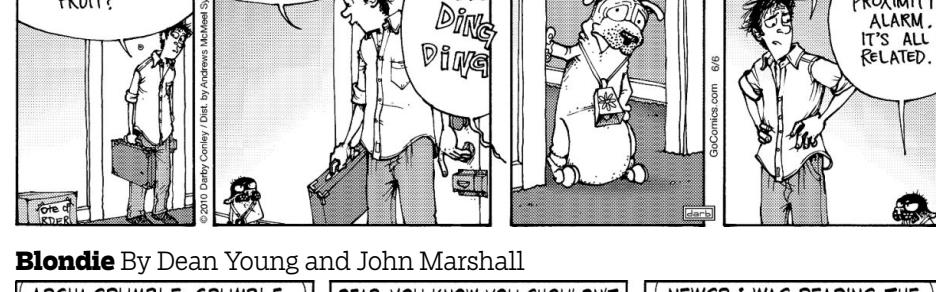
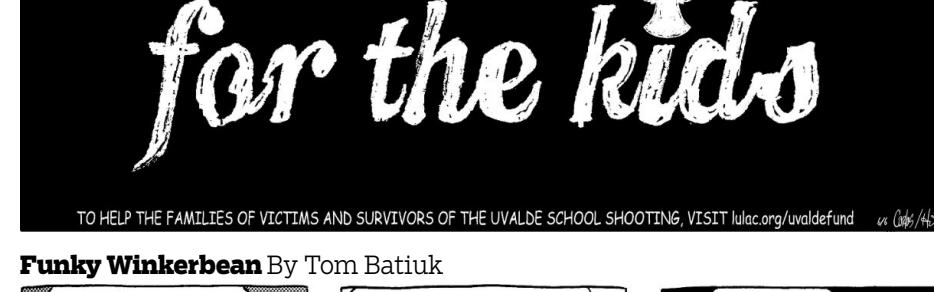
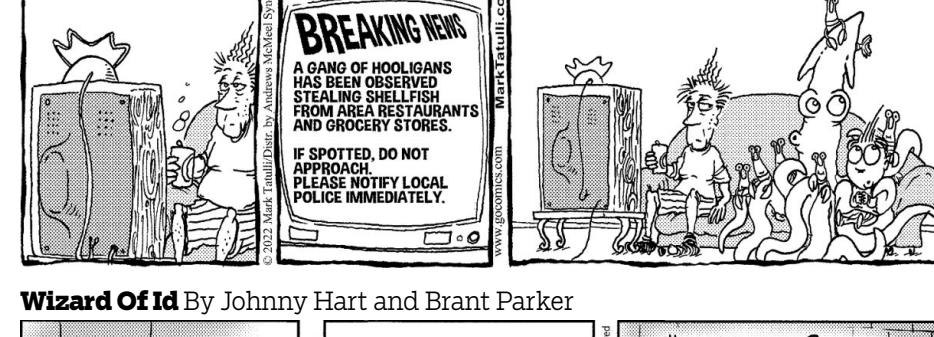
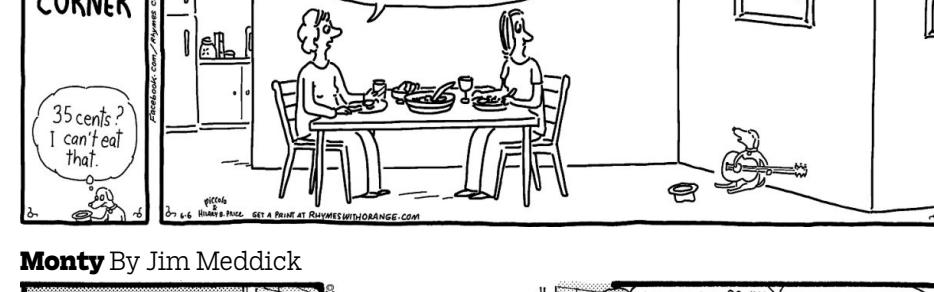
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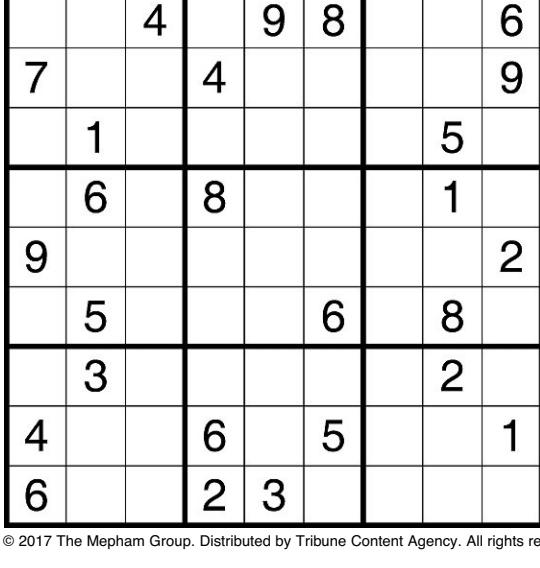
BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at PlayJumble.com



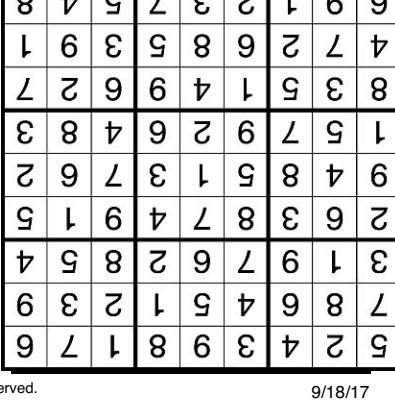
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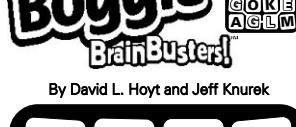
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.



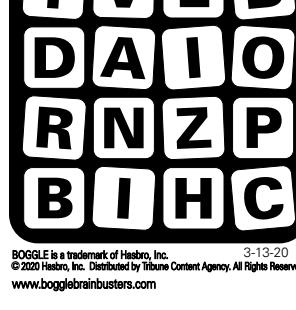
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9/18/17

BOGGLE



By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



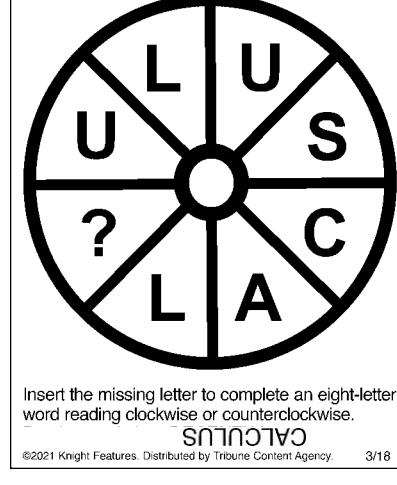
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INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by picking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE YOUR BOGGLE RATING
3 letters = 1 point 151+ = Champ
4 letters = 2 points 101-150 = Expert
5 letters = 3 points 61-100 = Pro
6 letters = 4 points 31-60 = Beginner
7 letters = 5 points 21-30 = Rookie
8 letters = 10 points 11-20 = Amateur
9+ letters = 15 points 0-10 = Try again

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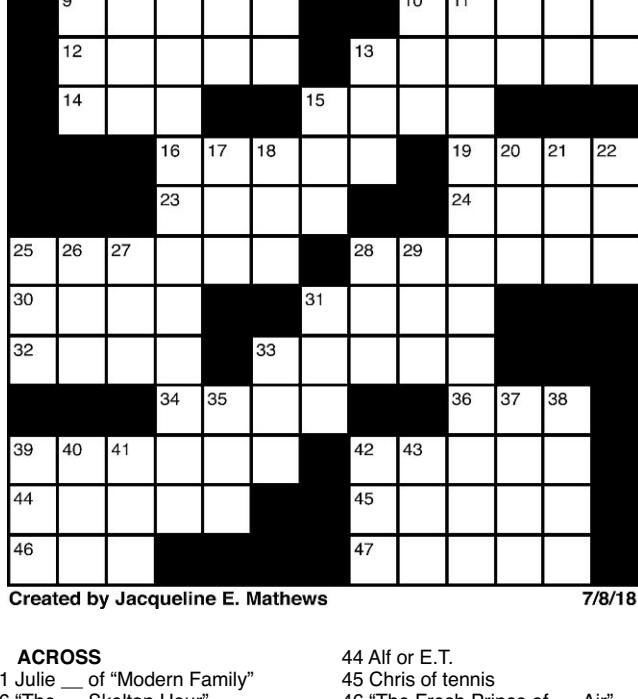
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Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counter-clockwise.

CALCULUS

TV CROSSWORD

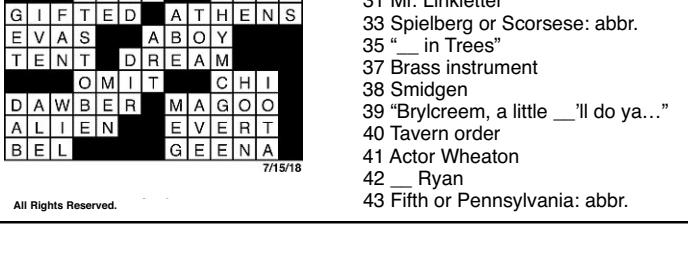
by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/8/18

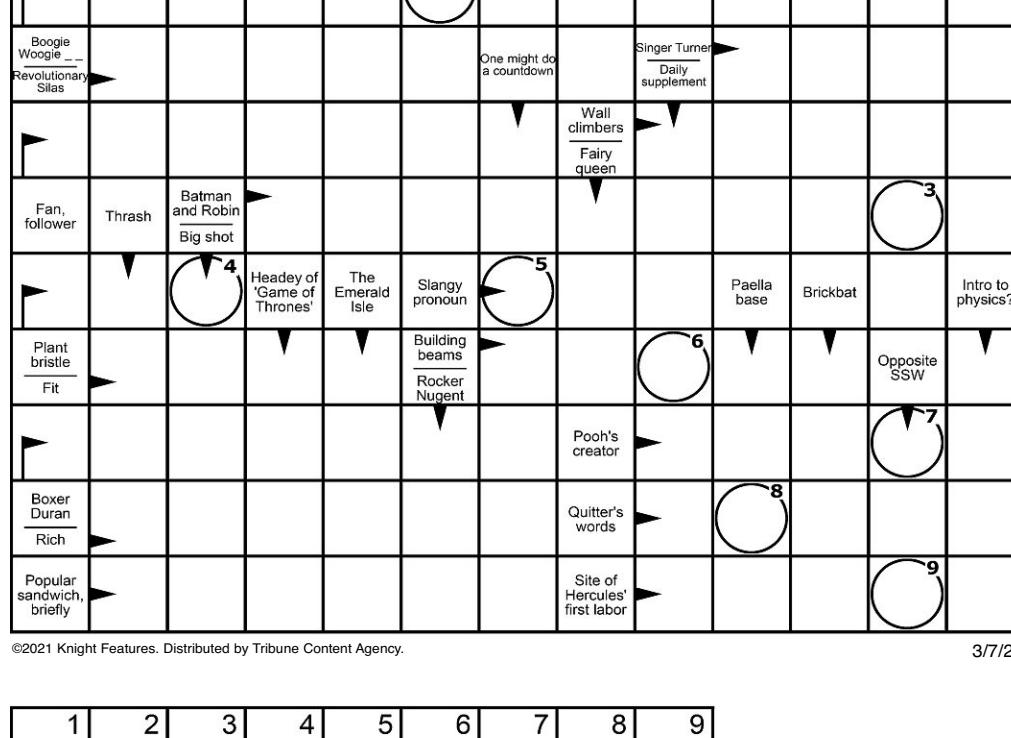
ACROSS
1 Julie ___ of "Modern Family"
6 "The ___ Skeleton Hour"
9 ___ Suplee of "My Name Is Earl"
10 ___ McGarrett; "Hawaii Five-0" role
12 "Who's Minding the ___?", Jerry Lewis film
13 Minnie of "Speechless"
14 Disabled car's need
15 Injure
16 Steve or Woody
19 Mayberry boy
23 ___ Patrick Harris
24 Take care of, as a garden
25 "A ___ Man"; Patrick Wilson series
28 Greece's capital
30 Gabor and Mendes
31 "About ___"; series for David Walton
32 Camp shelter
33 "Requiem for a ___"; Ellen Burstyn movie
34 Leave out
36 Actor McBride
39 Actress Pam ___
42 Mr. ___; nearsighted cartoon fellow



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ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

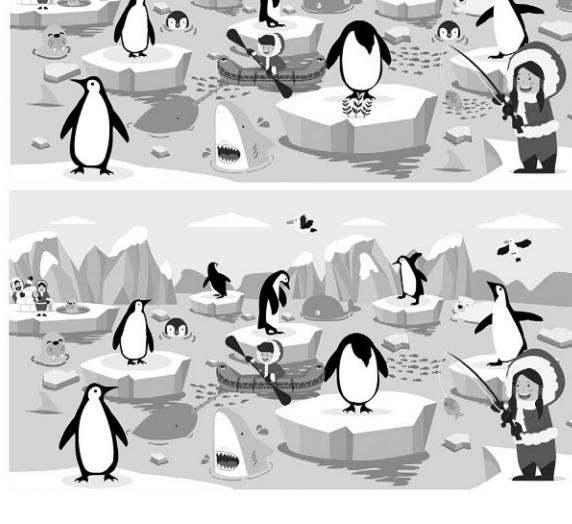
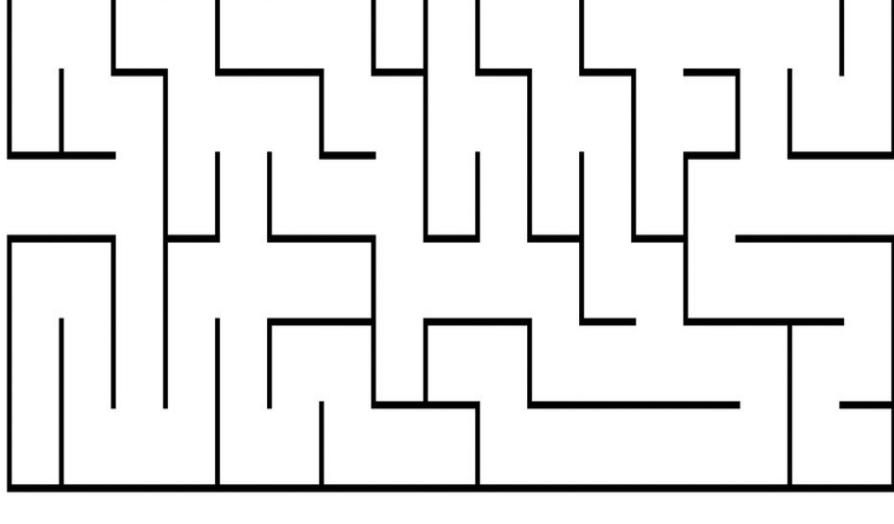


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SUN 93, STORM 86

Fatigued Sun push through

Connecticut concludes West Coast stretch with win over Seattle

By Lila Bromberg
Hartford Courant

SEATTLE — Prior to the start of Sunday's game against the Seattle Storm, Connecticut Sun head coach and general manager Curt Miller said he wasn't sure how much his players had "in the tank."

The Sun were playing their third game in four days, each in a different city on the West Coast with travel in between.

The wear and tear of the recent stretch showed, especially early on, but Connecticut (9-3) fought past the fatigue to escape with a 93-86 victory over Seattle (5-5) at Climate Pledge Arena.

"I can't begin to compliment these guys enough for their toughness, their will, their determination," Miller said. "When we looked at the schedule, at this road trip playing nine games in 17 days and ending with three in the last four, I just didn't even comprehend that we could sweep these three. So it's just an unbelievably

Turn to Sun, Page 2

UCONN MEN'S BASKETBALL

After redshirting his freshman year, UConn's Alex Karaban is looking forward to having an impact on the team next season. COURTESY OF TEAM EXPRESSIONS ELITE

Karaban is ready to make his mark

After a year to watch and learn, the redshirt freshman is hungry

By Shreyas Laddha

Alex Karaban will never forget the feeling of helplessness he experienced when the UConn men's basketball team was upset in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

The UConn redshirt freshman watched from the bench as the fifth-seeded Huskies lost 70-63 to No. 12 New Mexico State in Buffalo.

"I'm a competitive person, so I am always the type to want to get out there and help the team win,"

Karaban said. "Throughout my career, I don't want to be cocky, but I'm not used to sitting on the bench and just watching."

The 6-foot-8 forward from Massachusetts heads into his first year of athletic eligibility ready to bring his competitive spirit out on the court. He thinks this year's team will turn some heads.

"I think we will be really good," he said. "I think we are getting the view of nobody putting us on the radar right now. We're going to be very underrated. Just from the personalities on the team, we like that. A bunch of kids that like to prove a point on our team. Just being able to prove that we will

Turn to Karaban, Page 6



Lightning left wing Ondrej Palat celebrates after scoring past Rangers goaltender Igor Shesterkin with 42 seconds left in Game 3 on Sunday in Tampa.

CHRIS O'MEARA/AP

NHL LIGHTNING 3, RANGERS 2

Lightning strike thrice: Late goal caps stunner

Rangers blow 2-0 lead, as Palat gets the winner in the final minute

By Fred Goodall
Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Ondrej Palat scored with 42 seconds left as the two-time defending Stanley Cup champion Tampa Bay Lightning beat the New York Rangers 3-2 on Sunday to cut their deficit in the Eastern Conference finals to 2-1.

Palat's goal, off a nifty pass from Nikita Kucherov, capped a comeback that began after Mika Zibanejad and Chris Kreider scored power-play goals in a span of just over two minutes in the second period to put the Rangers up 2-0.

Facing the prospect of falling behind 3-0 in a series that began with a pair of losses on the road, the Lightning rallied with Kucherov

scoring on the power play in the second period and Steven Stamkos blistering a shot past goalie Igor Shesterkin from the left circle early in the third.

Game 4 is Tuesday night, with New York still in a position to move within one victory of its first trip to the Stanley Cup Finals since 2014.

Andrei Vasilevskiy made 28 saves for the Lightning.

Artemi Panarin had two assists for the Rangers, and Adam Fox and Zibanejad had primary helpers on power-play goals resulting from a pair of penalties drawn by Shesterkin in the second period.

Tampa Bay's Corey Perry was whistled for slashing on the first, and Riley Nash went to the penalty box for interference before Kreider's

goal made it 2-0 midway through the period.

Lightning coach Jon Cooper cited poor puck management and the lack of a sense of urgency as factors in Tampa Bay starting the series slowly following a nine-day layoff the defending champs earned with a second-round sweep of the Presidents Trophy-winning Florida Panthers.

Neither of those were a factor once the Lightning fell behind by two goals Sunday.

Shesterkin finished with 48 saves, but the Rangers wasted an opportunity to regain control of the game when Kucherov drew a four-minute penalty for high-sticking Zibanejad with just over nine minutes left.

In fact, New York lost the man-advantage when Jacob Trouba subsequently was penalized for tripping Tampa Bay's Alex Killorn.

Shesterkin made save after save to keep the Rangers from falling behind but couldn't get his glove up high enough to stop Palat's winner.

Tampa Bay, which hadn't lost consecutive playoff games in three years before dropping Games 1 and 2 at Madison Square Garden, rallied from a 3-2 deficit to win its first-round series against Toronto in seven games.

The Lightning swept the Florida Panthers, who had the NHL's best record during the regular season, before running into problems against the Rangers.

YANKEES 5, TIGERS 4

Yanks keep finding answers

Donaldson's sac fly in the 10th has Yankees eyeing some history

By Larry Fleisher
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Josh Donaldson hit a 10th-inning sacrifice fly, and the New York Yankees came from behind twice to beat the Detroit Tigers 5-4 on Sunday to reach the one-third mark of the season at 39-15, the best in the major leagues in 21 years.

Joey Gallo's two-run homer in the fifth erased an early deficit as the Yankees won for the 10th time in 12 games, completing a three-game sweep of the Tigers and extending their winning streak to six. Their start is the best after the season's first third since the 2001 Seattle Mariners were 42-12.

"Just a lot of guys with a hand in the victory again," manager Aaron Boone said.

Anthony Rizzo tied the score 4-4 in the eighth after he was hit near the left knee by a bounced pitch, stole second and continued to third when second baseman Jonathan Schoop had the ball to bounce off his glove for an error. Rizzo slid home when third baseman Harold Castro's high throw on Gleyber Torres' RBI grounder glanced off Eric Haase's mitt for another error.

"It's nice always whenever you can impact a game in a big way," Rizzo said. "I think our pitching and defense has been outstanding. It just allows all of us to play free and just play baseball."

With Aaron Judge as the automatic runner in the 10th, Rizzo reached on an infield single off Gregory Soto (2-3) that Schoop knocked down on the right side of second. Donaldson followed with a drive to the left field warn-

Turn to Yankees, Page 2

FRENCH OPEN

Magnifique! Nadal rolls, claims 14th title in Paris

But foot issue leaves 22-time Slam champ's future in doubt

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

PARIS — Rafael Nadal's painful left foot was numbed by multiple injections to two nerves throughout the French Open, the only way he has found to deal with a chronic condition he acknowledges puts his tennis future in doubt.

At any other tournament, Nadal said, he would not have persisted through what he called such "extreme conditions."

Ah, but five simple words uttered after he strung together the last 11 games of a 6-3, 6-3, 6-0

victory over an overwhelmed Casper Ruud in Sunday's intriguing-for-a-handful-of-minutes final at Court Philippe Chatrier explained Nadal's mindset: "Roland Garros is Roland Garros."

And so even if Nadal, a French Open champion for the 14th time now at age 36, is in obvious ways different from Nadal, a French Open champion for the first time all the way back in 2005 at age 19, that desire to give his all, no matter what, to "find solutions" — one of his oft-used phrases — remains the same.

He's the oldest champion in the

history of a tournament that began in 1925, and his hair is thinning on top. The chartreuse T-shirt he wore Sunday had sleeves, unlike his biceps-baring look of nearly two decades ago. The white capri pants that ran below his knees back in the day were long since traded in for more standard shorts; Sunday's were turquoise.

Here's what hasn't changed along the way to his 22 Grand Slam titles in all, another record, in addition to his between-point mannerisms and meticulous attention

Turn to Nadal, Page 2



Rafael Nadal, 36, acknowledges the crowd at Roland Garros following his 6-3, 6-3, 6-0 victory over 23-year-old Casper Ruud in the final of the French Open on Sunday. ADAM PRETTY/GETTY

SPORTS**UP NEXT**

Celtics: NBA Finals: vs. Warriors (Game 3), Wednesday, 9 p.m.; vs. Warriors (Game 4), Friday, 9 p.m.; at Warriors (Game 5, if necessary), June 13, 9 p.m.

Rangers: Eastern Conference Finals: at Lightning (Game 4), Tuesday, 8 p.m.; vs. Lightning (Game 5, if necessary), Thursday, 8 p.m.; at Lightning (Game 6, if necessary), Saturday, 8 p.m.

Red Sox: at Angels, Monday, 9:30 p.m.; at Angels, Tuesday, 9:30 p.m.; at Angels, Wednesday, 9:30 p.m.

Yankees: at Twins, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.; at Twins, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.; at Twins, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Mets: at Padres, Monday, 9:30 p.m.; at Padres, Tuesday, 9:30 p.m.; at Padres, Wednesday, 9:30 p.m.

Yard Goats: at Portland, Tuesday, 6 p.m.; at Portland, Wednesday, 6 p.m.; at Portland, Thursday, 6 p.m.

Sun: Fever, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Sky, Friday, 7 p.m.; Dream; June 15, 7 p.m.

Hartford Athletic: at San Diego, Saturday, 10 p.m.; Memphis, June 15, 7 p.m.; at Atlanta United II, June 18, 7:30 p.m.

TV/RADIO**BASEBALL**

1 p.m.: NCAA Tournament, Regional. (Live) ESPN

4 p.m.: NCAA Tournament, Regional. (Live) ESPN

7 p.m.: NCAA Tournament, Regional. (Live) ESPN2

9:30 p.m.: Red Sox at Angels. (Live) NESN

Radio: 1080

9:30 p.m.: Mets at Padres. (Live) SNY

MLB. Radio: 880

10 p.m.: NCAA Tournament, Regional. (Live) ESPN2

HOCKEY

8 p.m.: Avalanche at Oilers. (Live) TNT

SOCCER

2:30 p.m.: UEFA Nations League Croatia vs France. (Live) FS1

SOFTBALL

Noon: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

2:30 p.m.: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

7 p.m.: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

9:30 p.m.: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

10 p.m.: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

11 p.m.: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

12 a.m.: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

1 a.m.: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

2 a.m.: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

3 a.m.: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

4 a.m.: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

5 a.m.: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

6 a.m.: College World Series. (Live) ESPN

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BASEBALL**AMERICAN LEAGUE**

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
New York	39	15	.722	—	—	8-2	W-6	23-7	16-8
Toronto	31	22	.585	7 1/2	—	8-2	L-1	18-10	13-12
Tampa Bay	31	23	.574	8	—	5-5	L-2	18-13	13-10
Boston	27	27	.500	12	—	6-4	W-4	13-14	14-13
Baltimore	23	33	.411	17	5	4-6	L-1	14-15	9-18
CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Minnesota	32	24	.571	—	—	4-6	W-1	17-11	15-13
Cleveland	24	25	.490	4 1/2	1/2	6-4	W-1	11-8	13-17
Chicago	25	27	.481	5	1	4-6	W-2	11-13	14-14
Detroit	21	33	.389	10	6	5-5	L-3	15-15	6-18
Kansas City	17	35	.327	13	9	3-7	L-1	9-17	8-18
WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Houston	35	19	.648	—	—	7-3	W-1	14-6	21-13
Los Angeles	27	28	.491	8 1/2	1/2	0-10	L-11	15-13	12-15
Texas	25	28	.472	9 1/2	1 1/2	5-5	L-1	13-16	12-12
Seattle	24	30	.444	11	3	6-4	W-1	12-10	12-20
Oakland	20	36	.357	16	8	1-9	L-6	7-23	13-13

BOX SCORES**N.Y. YANKEES 5, DETROIT 4 (10)**

DETROIT	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
W.Castro lf	5	1	0	1	.252	
Torkelson 1b	5	0	0	0	.291	
Schoop 2b	4	0	0	0	.192	
Cabrera dh	3	1	3	1	.301	
I-Clemens dh	0	1	0	0	.000	
Baez ss	4	1	2	2	.198	
Candelario 3b	1	0	0	0	.181	
H.Castro 3b	3	0	0	0	.286	
Cameron rf	4	0	2	1	.207	
Haase c	3	0	0	0	.216	
Hill cf	4	0	0	0	.228	
TOTALS	36	4	8	4	10	
N.Y. Yankees	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
LeMahieu 3b	3	0	1	0	.253	
Judge cf	5	1	1	0	.231	
Rizzo 1b	4	1	1	0	.215	
Donaldson dh	4	0	1	1	.229	
Torres 2b	4	1	1	1	.247	
Hicks lf	4	0	0	0	.213	
Kiner-Falefa ss	3	2	0	0	.274	
Trevino c	2	0	0	0	.182	
a-Carpenter ph	0	0	0	0	.263	
Gigashoika c	1	0	0	0	.152	
Gallo rf	3	1	2	1	.176	
b-Stanton ph	1	0	0	0	.282	
Gonzalez rf	0	0	0	0	.246	
TOTALS	34	5	7	5	9	
Detroit	000 200 020 0 0 4	8	2			
N.Y. Yankees	000 020 110 1 5	7	0			

One out when winning run scored.

a-walked out for Trevino in the 7th, b-struck out for Gallo in the 9th, 1-run for Cabrera in the 8th.

E: Schoop (2), H.Castro (4).

LOB: Detroit 5, New York 8.

2B: Cameron (2), Baez (9), W.Castro (5), Donaldson (9). HR: Gallo (6), off Garcia.

RBIs: Baez (2), Cameron (6), Cabrera (19), Gallo (2), LeMahieu (23), Torres (26), Donaldson (17).

SB: Kiner-Falefa (8), Rizzo (5).

CS: Kiner-Falefa (2), SF: Donaldson.

Runners left in scoring position: Detroit 3 (Torkelson, Haase 2); New York 4 (Kiner-Falefa, Gigashoika, Judge 2).

RISP: Detroit 3 for 10; New York 2 for 10.

Runners moved up: H.Castro.

GIDP: Baez (2); P.McCormick (1).

WHITE SOX 5, TAMPA BAY 6 (10)

WHITE SOX	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Mendick ss	5	1	0	0	3	.318
Vaughn rf	5	2	3	1	0	.298
Engel cf	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Robert cf	5	0	3	1	0	.296
Abreu dh	4	1	2	0	0	.250
Burger 3b	5	1	2	2	1	.245
Grandal 1b	4	0	1	2	0	.163
Pollock lf	5	0	0	0	1	.216
McGuire c	5	0	2	0	1	.220
Harrison 2b	3	1	2	0	0	.667
Zunino c	4	1	1	2	1	.500
TOTALS	41	6	16	6	3	
Tampa Bay	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Kiermaier cf	4	0	1	0	2	.250
Margot rf	4	0	0	0	0	.000
Diaz 3b	3	1	2	0	0	.250
Choi 1b	4	1	1	0	1	.263
Ramirez dh	3	0	1	1	1	.285
Arozarena lf	3	1	1	1	1	.262
Paredes 2b	4	1	1	1	0	.203
Zunino c	4	1	1	2	1	.500
Walls ss	4	0	1	0	2	.151
TOTALS	33	5	9	5	8	
Chi. White Sox	420 000 000	6	16			
Tampa Bay	000 014 000	5	9			

E: Grandal (3), Margot (1). LOB: Chicago 11, Tampa Bay 4. 2B: Vaughn (28), Burger (2), Harrison (8), Robert (5), Ramirez (6). 3B: Arozarena (2).

HR: Paredes (4), off Giolito; Zunino (5), off Goliotto. RBIs: Burger (2), Grandal (2), Ramirez (1), Vaughn (23), Robert (20), Paredes (10), Ramirez (16), Arozarena (24), Zunino (2). SB: Harrison (1). CS: Diaz (3). SF: Ramirez.

Runners left in scoring position: Chicago 6 (Vaughn, Grandal, Mendick, Pollock 2, Burger); Tampa Bay 1 (Arozarena).

RISP: Adam 2 for 7. Runners moved up: Burger.

LIDP: Harrison. GIDP: Burger, Margot, Paredes; DP: Chicago 2 (Grandal, Mendick, Grandal); Tampa Bay 2 (Walls, Paredes, Choi; Choi).

WHITE SOX IP H R ER BB SO ERA

WHITE SOX	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Giolito, W, 4-2	6 8	5	2	2	3	2.25	
Bummer, H, 9	1	1	0	0	0	3.12	
Graveman, H, 12	1	0	0	0	0	3.05	
Hicks, H, 13	1	0	0	0	0	2.78	
Kirttidge, K	1	0	0	0	0	2.84	
TOTALS	34	5	7	5	9		

Adam 3-0. H-2B: Armstrong (Harrington).

SF: Gallo (2), Rizzo (2), Hernandez (2).

Runners left in scoring position: Detroit 3-0. H-2B: Armstrong (Harrington).

SF: Gallo (2), Rizzo (2), Hernandez (2).

RISP: Adam 3 for 10; New York 2 for 10.

Runners moved up: H.Castro.

GIDP: Margot (2), P.McCormick (1).

WHITE SOX IP H R ER BB SO ERA

WHITE SOX	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA

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SCOREBOARD

NBA PLAYOFFS

FINALS SCHEDULE

#2 Boston 1, #2 Golden State 0
G1: June 2: Boston 120-108.
G2: Sunday: vs. Golden State, late
G3: Wednesday: at Boston, 9 p.m.
G4: Friday: at Boston, 9 p.m.
x-G5: June 13: at Golden State, 9 p.m.
x-G6: June 16: at Boston, 9 p.m.
x-G7: June 19: vs. Golden State, 8 p.m.
(best-of-7; x-if necessary)

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

Through Saturday

SCORING AVERAGE G FG FT PTS AVG

Antetokounmpo, MIL	124.91	380	31.7	
Doncic, DAL	15.10	104	47.5	31.7
Jokic, DEN	5.1	28	15.5	31.0
Butler, MIA	17.16	111	46.6	27.4
Morant, MEM	9.81	68	24.4	27.1
Ingram, NO	6.56	39	16.2	27.0
Curry, GS	17.18	88	44.9	26.4
Durant, BKN	4.32	34	10.5	26.3
Tatum, BOS	19.16	120	49.8	26.2
Mitchell, UTA	6.53	37	15.3	25.5
Edwards, MIN	6.50	28	15.1	25.2
Embiid, PHI	10.78	73	23.6	23.6
Booker, PHO	10.79	47	23.3	23.3
Brown, BOS	19.15	77	43.7	23.0
Siakam, TOR	6.51	31	13.7	22.8
McCollum, NO	6.49	18	13.3	22.2
Towns, MIN	6.39	48	13.1	21.8
Brunson, DAL	18.145	72	38.8	21.6
Irving, BKN	4.28	21	8.5	21.3
Hunter, ATL	5.39	16	10.6	21.2
DeRozan, CHI	5.39	26	10.4	20.8
Maxey, PHI	12.88	47	24.9	20.8
Thompson, GS	17.128	16	33.2	19.5
Vucevic, CHI	5.40	4	9.7	19.4
LaVine, CHI	4.27	14	7.7	19.3

WNBA

EAST

	W	L	Pct	GB
Connecticut	9	3	.750	—
Chicago	7	3	.700	1
Atlanta	7	4	.636	1½
Washington	7	5	.583	2
New York	3	8	.273	5½
Indiana	3	10	.231	6½
WEST	W	L	Pct	GB
Las Vegas	10	2	.833	—
Dallas	6	5	.545	3½
Seattle	5	5	.500	4
Los Angeles	5	7	.417	5
Minnesota	3	8	.273	6½
Phoenix	3	8	.273	6½

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Minnesotsa 84, New York 77

Atlanta 75, Indiana 66

Chicago 91, Washington 82

Phoenix 81, Los Angeles 74

Las Vegas 84, Dallas 78

Connecticut 93, Seattle 86

MONDAY'S GAMES

No games scheduled.

TUESDAY'S GAMES

Minnesota at New York, 8p.m.

Atlanta at Seattle, 10p.m.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

No games scheduled.

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN

	W	L	TPTs	GF	GA
New York City FC	8	3	2	26	25
Philadelphia	6	1	7	25	19
CF Montréal	7	2	2	23	28
N.Y. Red Bulls	6	3	5	23	24
Orlando City	6	5	3	21	17
Cincinnati	6	7	1	19	21
Inter Miami CF	5	6	3	18	15
Charlotte FC	5	8	1	16	18
Columbus	4	5	4	16	17
Atlanta	4	5	4	16	20
New England	4	5	4	16	22
Toronto FC	4	7	3	15	21
D.C. United	4	7	2	14	17
Chicago	2	7	5	11	13
WESTERN	W	L	T	PT	GF
Los Angeles FC	9	3	2	29	26
FC Dallas	7	3	4	25	24
Real Salt Lake	7	4	4	25	18
Austin FC	7	4	3	24	28
LA Galaxy	7	5	2	23	17
Nashville	6	4	4	22	18
Houston	5	6	3	18	17
Minnesota United	5	6	3	18	15
Colorado	5	6	3	18	16
Vancouver	5	7	2	17	24
New England	4	5	4	16	22
Toronto FC	4	7	3	15	21
D.C. United	4	7	2	14	17
Chicago	2	7	5	11	13
WESTERN	W	L	T	PT	GF
Los Angeles FC	9	3	2	29	26
FC Dallas	7	3	4	25	24
Real Salt Lake	7	4	4	25	18
Austin FC	7	4	3	24	28
LA Galaxy	7	5	2	23	17
Nashville	6	4	4	22	18
Houston	5	6	3	18	17
Minnesota United	5	6	3	18	15
Colorado	5	6	3	18	16
Vancouver	5	7	2	17	24
New England	4	5	4	16	22
Toronto FC	4	7	3	15	21
D.C. United	4	7	2	14	17
Chicago	2	7	5	11	13

Three points for win, one point for tie.

SATURDAY'S MATCHES

New York at Charlotte FC, 3p.m.

San Jose at Nashville, 6p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

New England at Sporting KC, 3p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 14

Vancouver at Seattle, 10:30p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

Orlando City at New England, 7:30p.m.

SATURDAY'S RESULT

Vancouver 2, Real Salt Lake 1

U.S. MEN'S SCHEDULE (4-2-2)

q-Jan 27: U.S. 1, El Salvador 0

q-Jan 30: Canada 2, U.S. 0

q-Feb 2: U.S. 3, Honduras 0

q-March 27: U.S. 5, Panama 1

1-March 30: Costa Rica 2, U.S. 0

June 1: U.S., 3, Morocco 0

Sunday: U.S., 0, Uruguay 0

June 10: vs. Grenada, 10 p.m.

June 14: vs. El Salvador, 10 p.m.

w-Nov 21: TBA, 2 p.m.

w-Nov 25: vs. England, 2 p.m.

w-March 23, 2023: vs. Grenada, TBA

w-March 26, 2023: vs. El Salvador, TBA

w-Nations Cup

q-CONCACAF World Cup qualifying

w-FIFA World Cup, Qatar

U.S. WOMEN'S SCHEDULE

s-Sept 17: U.S., 0, Czech Republic 0

s-Feb 20: U.S., 5, New Zealand 0

s-Feb 23: U.S., 5, Icelend 0

April 9: U.S., 9, Uzbekistan 1

April 12: U.S. 9, Uzbekistan 0

June 25: vs. Colombia, at Dick's Sporting Goods Park, Commerce City, Colo., 7:30 p.m.

June 28: vs. Colombia, at Rio Tinto Stadium, Sandy, Utah, 10 p.m.

v-July 4: vs. Haiti, 7 p.m.

v-July 7: vs. Jamaica, 7 p.m.

v-July 11: at Mexico, 10 p.m.

s-Shebelieves Cup

w-CONCACAF W Championship

NHL

STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

Logano wins 1st Cup race at Gateway



Joey Logano jockeyed for the lead with Kyle Busch in overtime, got around him for good just before the white flag flew and cruised to the victory Sunday in the NASCAR Cup Series debut at World Wide Technology Raceway, formerly known as Gateway Motorsports Park, in Madison, Illinois. It was the second

win of the season for the 2018 Cup champion and Team Penske driver. Kurt Busch finished second in a wild race that contained plenty of drama. By the end, Logano had watched Kyle Busch drive away from him on a restart with 13 laps left, then got another chance when Kevin Harvick crashed with five to go. That led to a green-white-checkered finish at the 1 1/4-mile hairpin near St. Louis, and Busch chose the outside lane as Logano drove his No. 22 car to the inside. This time Logano won the drag race to Turn 1 and moved up in front of Busch, who crossed him over and took the lead into the third and fourth turns. That's where Logano went low and pulled ahead, gaining the space he needed to pull away when Busch got a little sideways coming out of Turn 4.

Snyder ends tenure as coach of Jazz



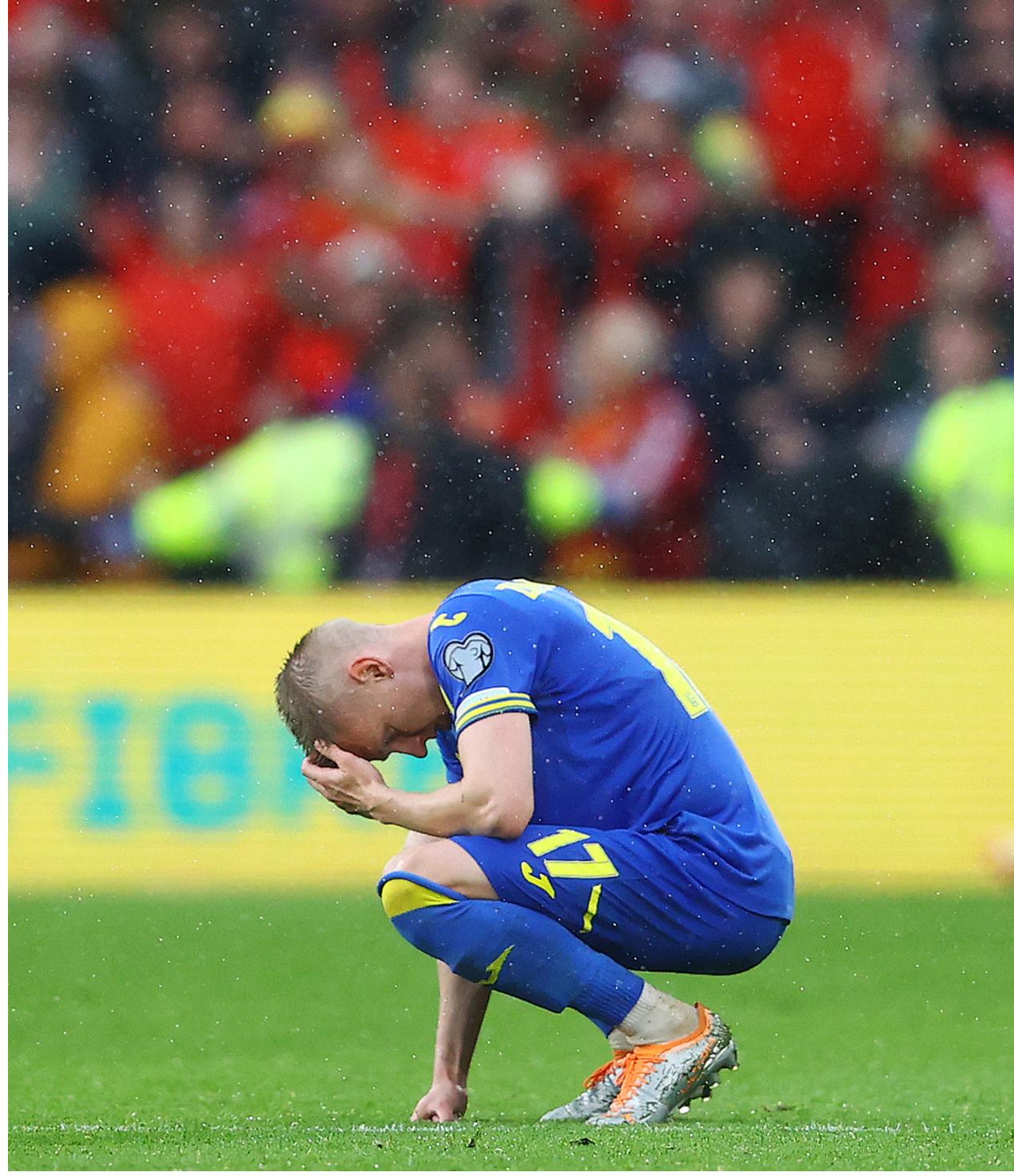
Quin Snyder guided the Jazz to six consecutive playoff appearances, was an NBA coach of the year finalist just last season and won nearly 60% of his games with the franchise. And he's decided that was enough. Snyder resigned Sunday as coach of the Jazz, ending an eight-year run of regular-season success but with the team never getting past the second round of the playoffs in his tenure. Snyder released a statement through the team, part of it simply saying "it is time." "... I strongly feel (the Jazz needs) a new voice to continue to evolve," the 55-year-old Snyder added in the statement. "That's it. No philosophical differences, no other reason. After eight years, I just feel it is time to move onward. I needed to take time to detach after the season and make sure this was the right decision." He went 372-264 with the Jazz, his winning percentage of .585 ranking as 18th-best among NBA coaches who have worked for at least that long. He's one of only two coaches to have a winning record with the Jazz, Jerry Sloan being the other.

Horschel rolls to victory at Memorial



Billy Horschel ended any doubt about his victory at Muirfield Village with an eagle putt from one end of the green to the other on the 15th hole, sending him to a four-shot victory Sunday at the Memorial in Dublin, Ohio. Horschel was staked to a five-shot lead at the start of a sun-soaked final round and no one ever got closer than two shots. He closed with an even-par 72. There still a few nervous moments. Horschel didn't make his first birdie until the 10th hole. He had to scramble for bogey on the par-3 12th that dropped his lead to two. Before the long eagle, Horschel saved himself with par putts of 12 feet on the 13th hole and 8 feet on 14. And then it was over. From the front of the green on the par-5 15th, Horschel's putt from just inside 55 feet had the perfect line and perfect speed, bending left and dropping in the left side of the cup. "Just like you, big man," Horschel said to tournament host Jack Nicklaus when it was over. His lead was up to four shots, and it was a comfortable finish. He finished at 13-under 275. Horschel, 35, now has seven PGA Tour victories.

—Associated Press



Ukraine came up just short in its bid to make this year's World Cup, falling to host Wales 1-0 on Sunday in the tournament's last qualifier. "We didn't deserve to lose today, it was so tight," midfielder Oleksandr Zinchenko, above, said. MICHAEL STEELE/GETTY

SOCCER

'Our main fight is the war'

Ukraine players, fans put tough loss in perspective

By Rob Harris
Associated Press

CARDIFF, Wales — Ukraine's players wept in the rain while applauding their dejected supporters after missing out on qualifying for the World Cup by losing 1-0 to Wales on Sunday in Europe's last playoff for the FIFA soccer showpiece.

The agonizing moment in a tight game came in the 34th minute when Andriy Yarmolenko inadvertently headed the ball into his own net while trying to clear Wales captain Gareth Bale's free kick.

While Wales heads to a first World Cup in 64 years — opening against the U.S. in November — this was a game too far for Ukraine's emotionally charged mission to qualify for Qatar while remaining under invasion by Russia.

"We did everything we could," coach Oleksandr Petrakov said, "but I really want the people of Ukraine to remember our team's efforts."

Petrakov's priority, once the World Cup dream had been extinguished, was ensuring the suffering at home is not forgotten by the world.

"We have war raging all over the country," Petrakov said. "We have children and women dying on a daily basis. Our infrastructure is being ruined by Russian barbarians. The Russians want to hurt us, but the Ukrainians are resisting and defending their land. We just want your support. We just want to you to understand what is happening back home."

Back home, on the 102nd day of the war, Ukrainians took respite from the pain and suffering by watching the game from Cardiff in bars, including in Kyiv. The war and missile strikes earlier Sunday in Ukraine's capital put an obvious dampener on any party mood for the match.

Still, architect Dmytro Leshehenko dug out his bright yellow national team jersey — bought in happier times when Ukraine co-hosted the 2012 European Championships — and trekked with his flip-flop-wearing brother past two of Kyiv's gold-domed cathedrals to a bar where they watched the match with friends, washed down with two huge 3-liter jugs of beer, fried bread, smoked meats and other nibbles.

"People in the battlefields watched this on their phones," Leshehenko said, recounting conversations with friends serving in the armed forces.

When the giant screens in the bar lost the signal in the second half, patrons gathered around mobile phones to follow the action. Some joked that Russian hackers must have knocked out the transmission.

The sadness of losing was tempered by the fact that, in the big scheme of things, the war is far more important.

The match was just a moment of respite.

"We have more problems than this," Leshehenko said. "This is a day where we can feel that there is no war. It's a holiday for us."

In Cardiff, there was also a sense that the playoff was the lesser of the struggles facing Ukraine.

"Our main fight is the war," said Ukraine fan Anna Stepanova, who

traveled to follow the team from Mykolaiv where her house has been damaged.

"Every day we hear bombs and hear artillery. It's a very difficult life. We came here and we're like in another world."

The specter of the war was evident in the Welsh capital with a message of peace in English and Ukrainian on the screens in the Cardiff City Stadium.

Of the 1,800-seat allocation for Ukraine, 100 free tickets were given to refugees who have been forced to flee Ukraine since the invasion began in February, which led to Russia being disqualified from World Cup qualifying.

Rivalries were put aside when the Ukrainian national anthem was played and it was applauded by the home fans who later clapped off the downbeat opposition.

Ultimately it was Wales goalkeeper Wayne Hennessey who proved an impenetrable barrier. No other team had as many as Ukraine's nine shots on target in European qualifying without managing to score.

Hennessey's right leg kept out Viktor Tsyhankov's poked shot 10 minutes into the second half as Ukraine searched in vain for an equalizer. Artem Dovbyk's header in the 84th minute looked destined for the corner of the net until it was pushed away by Hennessey's left hand.

"He made some incredible saves," Ukraine midfielder Oleksandr Zinchenko said. "We didn't deserve to lose today, it was so tight. We need to carry on, work a lot."

AP writer John Leicester in Kyiv, Ukraine contributed to this report.

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US WOMEN'S OPEN

Lee's 2nd major title yields big paycheck

By Steve Reed | Associated Press

SOUTHERN PINES, N.C. — The awesome Aussie would not be denied.

Minjee Lee won the U.S. Women's Open by four strokes over Mina Harigae at Pine Needles on Sunday to earn \$1.8 million, the largest payout in the history of women's golf.

Lee closed with an even-par 71 to finish at 13-under 271 after the Australian flirted with the tournament record of 16 under set by Juli Inkster in 1999 at Old Waverly.

"I mean, I'm speechless," Lee said. "I can't believe it right now. No, it's just super, super special and just a great honor. It's been my dream since I was a little girl. It's the one that I always wanted to win on; now I've done it, and just feels amazing."

Lee's winnings came from a record \$10 million purse.

"We're only moving in the right direction," Lee said. "I think it's only going to get better and better from here. It's such a large sum, and I'm really honored to be the first winner I guess of this sum. We're only going to get better and better."

Harigae shot a 72 for her best finish in a major and a check of slightly more than \$1 million.

Although she knew she had no chance to win down the stretch, Harigae said it was still stressful knowing that \$1 million — a check that is larger than the winner makes at most LPGA Tour events — was at stake.

"I'm not going to lie, my stomach hurt the last couple holes coming down the stretch," Harigae said. "I was really stressed out, but I was really just focusing on one shot at a time, making solid contact, and just hitting good putts."

South Korea's Hye-Jin Choi was one of only two players to break par Sunday, carding a 70 to finish third at 7 under.

South Korea's Jin Young Ko, the world's No. 1-ranked player, finished fourth at 6 under, seven shots back of the lead after a 71. Lydia Ko was at 5 under after a 72.

Ingrid Lindblad, the LSU player from Sweden, was the low amateur at 1 under, tying for 11th after a 76.

The 26-year-old Lee was never challenged on a course that played significantly tougher than the previous three days. She opened with rounds of 67, 66 and 67.

Lee became the sixth straight international player to win the U.S. Women's Open and the first from Australia since mentor Karrie Webb in 2001. It was her second win at a major championship overall after winning the Evian Championship last July. Her previous best finish at the U.S. Open was a tie for 11th in 2017.

Lee, who entered the week ranked No. 4 in the world, has won eight LPGA Tour events and became the first repeat winner this year following her victory at the Founders Cup three weeks ago in New Jersey.

Lee entered the final round with a three-stroke lead over Harigae and said after the third round her goal was to continue to stay aggressive and make birdies.

She lived up to that early on, birdieing the first two holes to move to 15 under and take a five-stroke lead.

She stumbled a bit with bogeys on Nos. 5 and 7, but was still able to make the turn at even-par 35 and with a four-stroke cushion when Harigae also bogeyed the seventh. The lead increased to five after Harigae bogeyed the par-4 11th hole, all but sealing the win.

Lee then knocked in a bending nine-foot birdie putt on No. 12 to push the lead to six, prompting her to thrust her arm in celebration. She appeared to eye Inkster's record when she got to 15 under after a birdie on the par-5 15th hole, but closed with two bogeys.

Harigae didn't make her first birdie until the 15th hole.

Lee said she's never been more nervous on a golf course — even though she never led by fewer than three strokes.

"Even with a three-shot lead I never felt comfortable today," Lee said. "I felt like I still needed to play well. I still needed to hold my ground. That's pretty much what I did. To start aggressively, I think it was the right move, and then after that I had quite a big lead, so I was able to just play my game just to finish."

Webb, Australia's greatest female golfer with seven majors, has known Lee since she was 14. She has a scholarship program to bring young Aussie amateurs to majors to spend a week with her and experience it all. Minjee won the scholarship twice.

Webb won her second U.S. Women's Open at Pine Needles in 2001 by eight shots.

Webb was at Philadelphia Cricket Club at a pre-arranged outing, charged up her phone until it was time to tee off and spent the day checking scores, then watched on streaming the final three holes.

"So amazing. Just the way she played all week, she never looked like the moment was getting to her at all. I think she struggled a little bit at the start of last year with putting, and now it's the best part of the game for her. If she keeps putting like that, she's got the whole package."

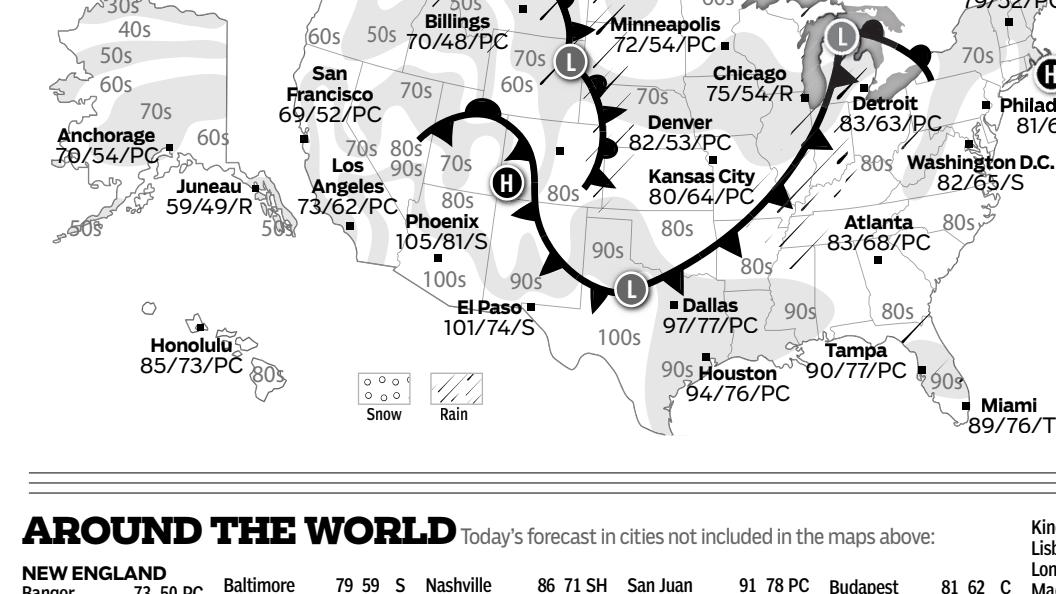
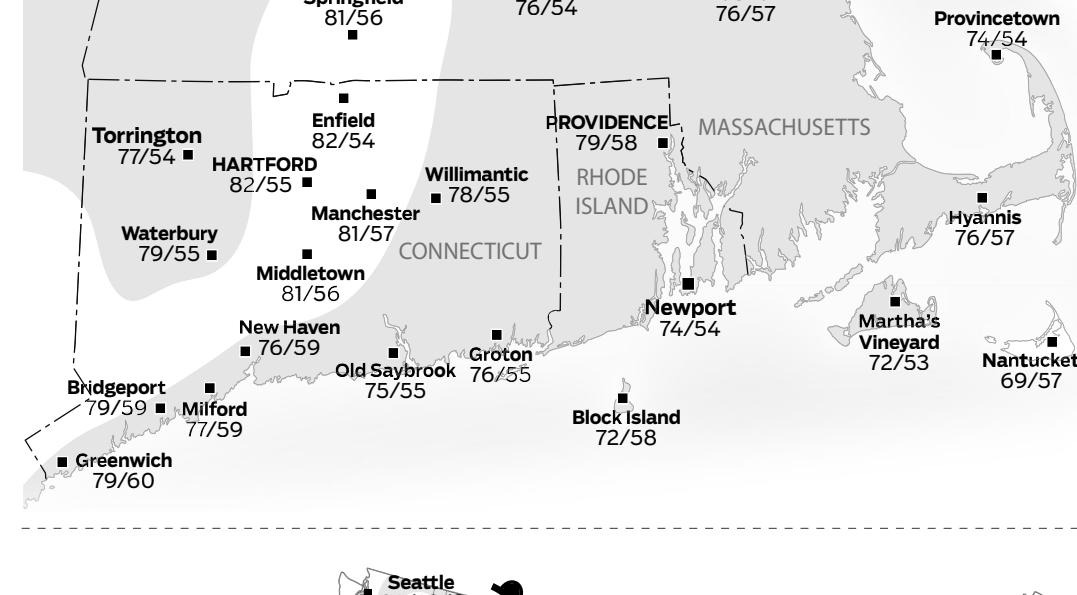
Webb said she texted her during the week, not with any advice but simple phrases like "I love your work."



Minjee Lee of Australia won a record \$1.8 million for her victory at the U.S. Women's Open on Sunday.
KEVIN C. COX/GETTY

WEATHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	CONNECTICUT WEATHER
SUNRISE 82° 55°	SUNRISE 80° 62°	SUNRISE 77° 58°	SUNRISE 78° 58°	SUNRISE 79° 57°	For the latest weather news throughout your day.

YOURCAST**AROUND THE WORLD**

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND	Baltimore	79 59 S	Nashville	86 71 SH	San Juan	91 78 PC	Budapest	81 62 C	Kingston	89 75 PC	Stockholm	66 49 PC	
Bangor	73 50 PC	Bismarck	79 59 S	New Orleans	91 76 PC	Tucson	102 72 S	Buenos Aires	60 47 S	Lisbon	79 61 PC	Sydney	60 46 PC
Burlington	78 56 PC	Boise	70 47 S	New York	81 64 S			Cairo	98 72 S	London	63 51 SH	Tel Aviv	83 69 S
Caribou	66 47 PC	Buffalo	80 62 SH	Oklahoma City	87 69 PC			Cancun	89 77 PC	Madrid	89 61 PC	Tokyo	68 58 SH
Concord	79 52 PC	Charleston	83 70 SH	Omaha	75 58 SH	Amsterdam	61 52 SH	Dubai	100 84 S	Milan	84 54 PC	Toronto	67 60 SH
Montpelier	74 49 PC	Cincinnati	82 66 SH	Orlando	91 73 T	Athens	94 72 PC	Dublin	59 49 C	Montreal	75 63 SH	Vancouver	64 50 PC
Mt. Wash.	46 41 PC	Cleveland	85 67 PC	Pittsburgh	84 62 PC	Bangkok	90 79 SH	Edinburgh	61 46 C	Moscow	72 49 PC	Warsaw	81 62 PC
Portland	74 53 PC	Indianapolis	79 63 T	Raleigh	81 61 PC	Barbados	84 76 SH	Helsinki	65 48 S	New Delhi	113 92 S	Weather page produced by	
Woods Hole	73 53 PC	Jacksonville	84 69 T	St. Louis	82 66 R	Beijing	86 62 PC	Hong Kong	79 74 SH	Paris	71 57 PC		
NATION		Las Vegas	100 80 S	Salt Lake City	79 54 PC	Beirut	79 72 S	Istanbul	80 63 PC	Prague	78 58 SH		
Albany	80 55 PC	Miami Beach	86 77 T	San Antonio	98 77 PC	Berlin	80 57 SH	Jerusalem	81 63 S	Rome	92 65 PC		
Albuquerque	93 67 PC	Milwaukee	65 50 R	San Diego	71 65 C	Bermuda	81 74 SH	Johannesburg	66 41 S	Seoul	73 56 PC		
Atlantic City	78 56 S	KEY: S Sunny, C Cloudy, PC Partly Cloudy, R Rain, SH Showers, SN Snow, SF Snow Flurries, T T-storms	79 73/PC		Weston	81 71		Singapore	89 78 SH	S			

Karaban

from Page 1

win. I think we will have a really big year."

A year of learning

When UConn's season ended in March, Karaban had zero regrets about enrolling early in January and coming to Storrs.

"It was just everything I had hoped for and kind of expected when I made the choice to come to UConn," Karaban said. "It was all worth it."

At practice sessions, one of the biggest lessons he learned was how physical and skilled college players are compared to high school players. The Huskies' coaching staff expects a ton out of its players, which leads to intense training sessions filled with a lot of yelling.

"I've learned I can work so much harder now," Karaban said. "The relationship with the coaches is so much better because of all

the tough times we've been through."

The grueling practices helped Karaban quickly bond with his teammates and coaches.

Sophomore guard Andre Jackson took Karaban under his wing, and they became very close. After the season, Karaban says he'll never forget watching multiple NBA games in one day with Jackson. He admires Jackson's intense focus while trying to learn from the games.

Corey Floyd Jr. was the only other redshirt freshman on the team, so naturally, he and Karaban became close. By April, UConn had four players enter the NCAA transfer portal: Akok Akok, Jalen Gaffney, Rahsoul Diggins and Floyd. The latter ended up at Big East rival Providence and will face Karaban at least twice next season.

"I was blindsided by that (Floyd transferring)," he said. "Every time people ask me, I still honestly don't know why. I still care about

him. I wish him the best of luck at Providence, but it was just hard. It was a hard week for me."

UConn brought in three guards from the transfer portal to replenish the roster: Texas A&M's Hassan Diarra, East Carolina's Tristen Newton and Virginia Tech's Nahiem Alleyne. Karaban is high on all of them. He thinks Newton will lead the offense and help score, Alleyne is a tough shooter and calls Diarra "a dawg" and the ultimate competitor.

As Karaban heads into next season, he fondly looks back on his redshirt season filled with internal growth. His favorite memory is UConn's thrilling 71-69 win over Big East foe Villanova.

"We haven't beat them in who knows how long (since 2014) and then we finally beat them," Karaban said. "The court storming and the locker room was crazy. The R.J. Cole game-winner and the comeback. Coach Dan Hurley leaving the game. It was a wild night of emotions, but it was a lot of fun."

A couple of times during

Earning a spot

The UConn coaching staff has told Karaban he will have to earn whatever minutes he plays next season.

Karaban won't come out and explicitly say it, but he's determined to make the starting lineup.

Since the season ended, he's been on a strict training regimen that starts at 6 a.m. with shooting sessions that last for two hours. He then lifts weights for an hour and works out on the basketball court with a trainer for a couple of hours. Then he finishes his days with yoga. Karaban swears by yoga's ability to help improve his focus and increase flexibility.

He's also been on a strict diet since stepping foot on campus. He started at 230 pounds and is now a leaner, more muscular 215 pounds. For breakfast, he eats an egg sandwich, snacks on berries throughout the day, then eats pasta with a protein at 4 p.m. He finishes his day with a bowl of fruit at 8 p.m.

the summer, Karaban has worked out with fellow Massachusetts native and former UConn star Shabazz Napier. He credits Napier with helping him keep focused and helping him with skills he will need for next season.

On the court, Karaban is a versatile forward who can play multiple positions and can shoot from anywhere on the court.

"I feel my shooting will help space out the floor for Adama Sanogo, Jackson and Jordan Hawkins," he said.

Assistant head coach Tom Moore feels Karaban will add quite a bit to next season's team.

"We're hopeful he will add some great shooting," Moore said. "He's got a toughness. He's a very good offensive player. He can pass and cuts very well. He has a good sense of timing on the offensive glass as well. We are excited about the position versatility he brings."

While Karaban hopes to play big minutes, Moore feels that there won't be

much pressure for Karaban to be a first-year contributor with all the talent on the roster.

Karaban describes himself as a shy, goofy, and weird kid off the court.

He swears by country artists Luke Combs and Florida Georgia Line as his go-to music. Karaban's made it his mission to get his teammates into country music.

"I am the only one when we shoot around the practice facility; I play my country music," he said. "I am trying to put everybody on it."

On the court, he's locked in, doesn't talk much and "is trying to be a killer."

He has meshed well with his teammates. Karaban talks to incoming UConn freshman Donovan Clinigan quite a bit as they will room together. Fellow freshman Samson Johnson and Hawkins are also close with Karaban. The group chats with the entire team have been quiet but have picked up now that players are back on campus.

LOCAL SCOREBOARD

Sunday's high school result

GIRLS TENNIS

CIAC State Tournaments Class LL—Final (Wesleyan, Middlebury)

DARIEN 5, AMITY 2

Monday's high school schedule

SOFTBALL

CIAC State Tournaments Class LL—Semifinals at DeLuca Field, Stratford

No. 5 Bristol Central (20-3) vs. No. 1

Danbury (21-1), 4 p.m.

No. 3 Fairfield Ludlowe (22-1) vs. No. 2

Souththing (22-1), 7 p.m.

Class LL—Semifinals at West Haven HS

No. 21 Bristol Eastern (13-10) vs. No. 1